

J. Marvin May

Survivor of The Battle of the Bulge, WWII
b. 1924

by Vern Tempest May

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by
Vern Tempest May

Cover designed by Sara Nichole May,
niece of J Marvin May



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<http://archive.org/details/jmarvinmay00may>

Preface

This book is the result of several years of interaction between myself and my oldest brother, J Marvin May. Marvin is a survivor of the Battle of the Bulge in World War II, one of the Greatest Generation. The experiences he had during that period of his life were ones that he was reluctant to share. I have come to appreciate his reasoning as to recall them was to have to relive the pain of them. However, those of us who did not experience war have a curiosity as to what happened and, most particularly what role our brother played in that war.

It was at a family reunion in 2006 that I determined that I would ask specific questions of Marvin and see what memories I could evoke. I was most gratified in that he responded with his best memories. I then took those memories and combined them with historical and published information and wrote a document that I entitled “J Marvin May – Military Experience (1944-1946)” I then shared copies of this war history with Marvin and his siblings.

Marvin called me in August 2012 and surprised me with a request to do more work on his history. He indicated that he wished to expand the history from just being his war experiences to a life history and asked if I would be willing to help him. I, of course, said I would and made arrangements to visit him in his home in Dayton, Nevada in September 2012. Marvin contacted his only son, Craig, and made arrangements for Craig to join us and we spent two days together.

Several things came out of the September 2012 visit. First of all we reviewed both his early life memories as well as his war memories. Craig had come prepared with a box of documents and letters that had been passed down to him from his mother and father. As well as many family photos there was a treasure trove of letters that Doris had kept, letters written back and forth between herself and Marvin from high school, marriage and the war. I was able to scan these photos and letters and have used them in this book. Since there were over 300 pages of letters I have elected to include a DVD that is in the back cover of the book that has all of the letters as well as all of the other documents and photos so that you the reader can read the originals at your leisure.

A most significant thing also came from the September visit; Justine, Marvin’s wife, consented to add her considerable talent to this task. She has contributed much in the overall composition of the book and was a major contributor to the section where his later life is discussed. This project would not have been this comprehensive with out Justine’s contributions. I thank her for this.

As I have discussed with Marvin, this book has great value to those now living who know and love Marvin May. However, the greatest value will be to those of you who are reading this in the distant future. I hope that our efforts help you to better understand and appreciate the life Marvin lived and the time in which he lived it. He truly is one of “The Greatest Generation”. Our nation owes a debt that cannot be repaid to those who literally laid their lives on the line to preserve our freedoms. I fear that present and future generations may not live up to the their example of service and sacrifice.

Vern Tempest May
Highland, Utah
January 2013

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J Marvin May Biography



Baby Marvin May



High Schooler Marvin May



Soldier Marvin May



Car Salesman Marvin May



*Distinguished Senior Citizen
Marvin May*



*Grandpa Marvin May with
Ryder May*

J Marvin May

A History as Related by Marvin and written by Vern T. May
with input from Justine May, September 2012

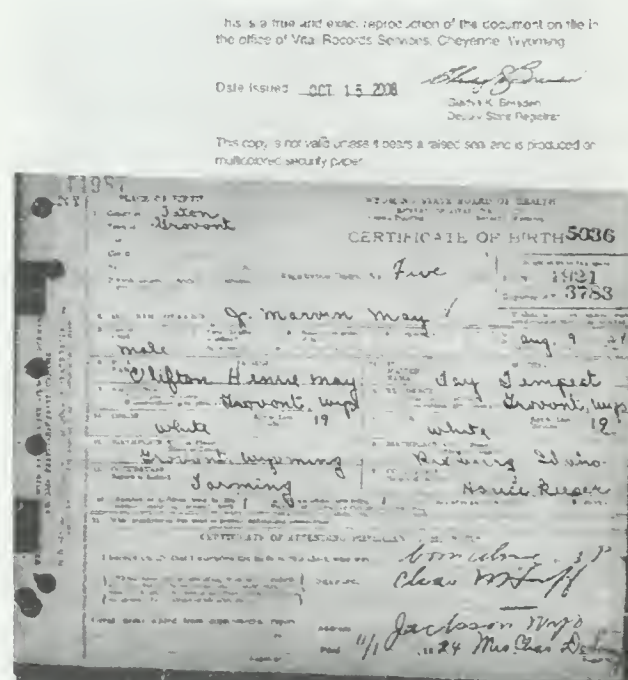
Note: The war history as recorded below was originally compiled in 2007. In August 2012 Marvin called me and said that he wanted to extend the memories of 2007 and asked that I assist. I visited him in September 2012 and he and I, along with his son Craig, spent two days where I recorded his memories. The extension of the war years to include childhood and post war history makes up this history.

J Marvin May was born August 9, 1924 at home at Grovont, Wyoming to Fay Tempest May and Clifton Henrie May. The home was a two room log cabin that had been built by his grandfather James Henrie May and the home where Clifton was born on March 10, 1905. When Clifton was born the home was a one room log cabin and was situated a half mile south on Mormon Row in Jackson Hole Wyoming. When Clifton was a young man the home was moved and a second room was added and the growing family of James Henrie May and Hadden Maria Wood May lived there until 1917 when they moved ¼ mile south to the frame home that Clifton's grandfather, James Ira May, had built. After Clifton and Fay were married on September 12, 1923 they moved into the abandoned log cabin. Clifton would subsequently add two log bedrooms to the home and this was the home where Marvin and all of his siblings were raised.

Marvin's name was unique. Both of his grandfathers names started with J, James Henrie May and Joseph Lorenzo Tempest. As a compromise or at least in honor of both of them, he was given the letter J as part of his name. He was called Marvin although his father would often call him Pete. Marvin was the first on nine children that Fay would give birth to. Glenn Clifton came along on February 19, 1926, Inez Fay (Moulton) was born December 15, 1928, Jack Richard on January 4, 1931, Marjorie Lee (Ryan) July 8, 1934, Shirley Irene (Barnes) December 5, 1938, Joseph Bruce was born January 10, 1939 (evidently by this time Clifton had acquiesced to having a child named Joseph) and died June 29, 1940, Vern Tempest was born December 8, 1940 and lastly Allyn Keith was born February 5, 1943. At the time of this writing, 2012, eight of the siblings are living.

Marvin grew up on the ranch on Mormon Row, working alongside his father, grandfather and siblings. All of the ranch chores were familiar to him. He milked cows, chopped wood, fed the pigs, herded the sheep, helped harvest the crops and made his way to the rural school located a half mile to the north.

The earliest childhood memory that Marvin has is of a couple that lived with them, Bill and Mary Moore. He remembers the snowdrift that would form higher than the house



in the winter outside the front door of the home and Bill Moore would sled down the drift. He remembered before the two bedrooms were built, there was a lean to shack on the south of the log home where a hired man named Hank Kitchen lived. Hank smoked and was not allowed to live in the house. He remembered waking up to the sound of his father playing the piano. Clifton was not an accomplished piano player as he was on the alto saxophone, but he loved to play familiar tunes. He could not read a note of music. Clifton would start the morning fire using shavings that he had carved from the

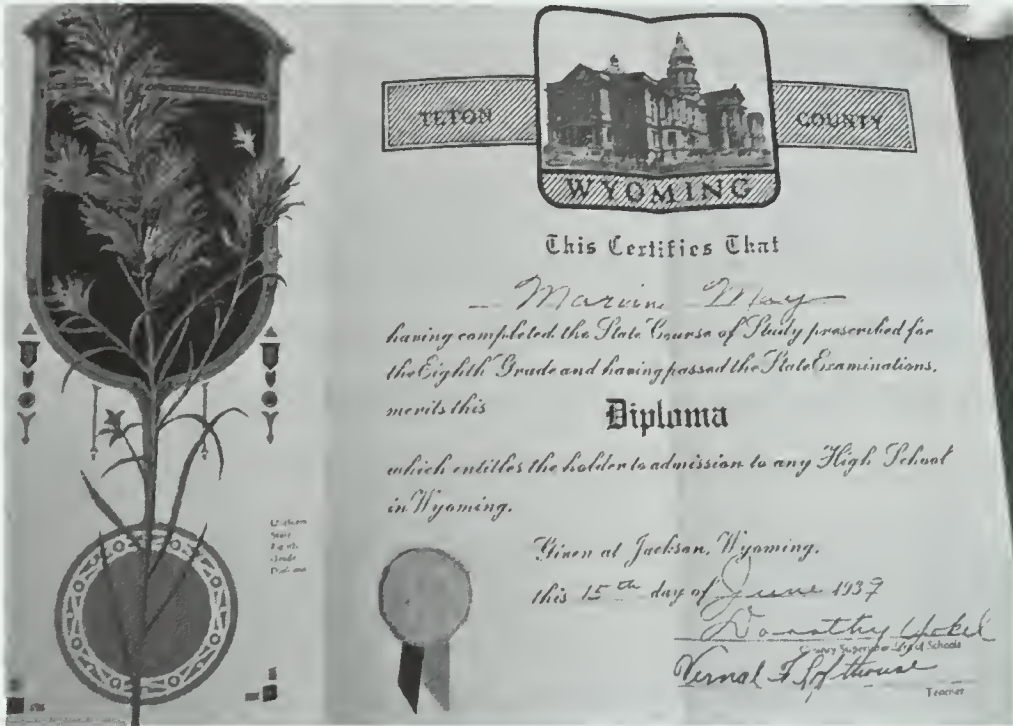


Wayne May with School in Background. This was the school that Marvin attended for the first seven years. It then burned down and school was held across the road in the Mormon Church

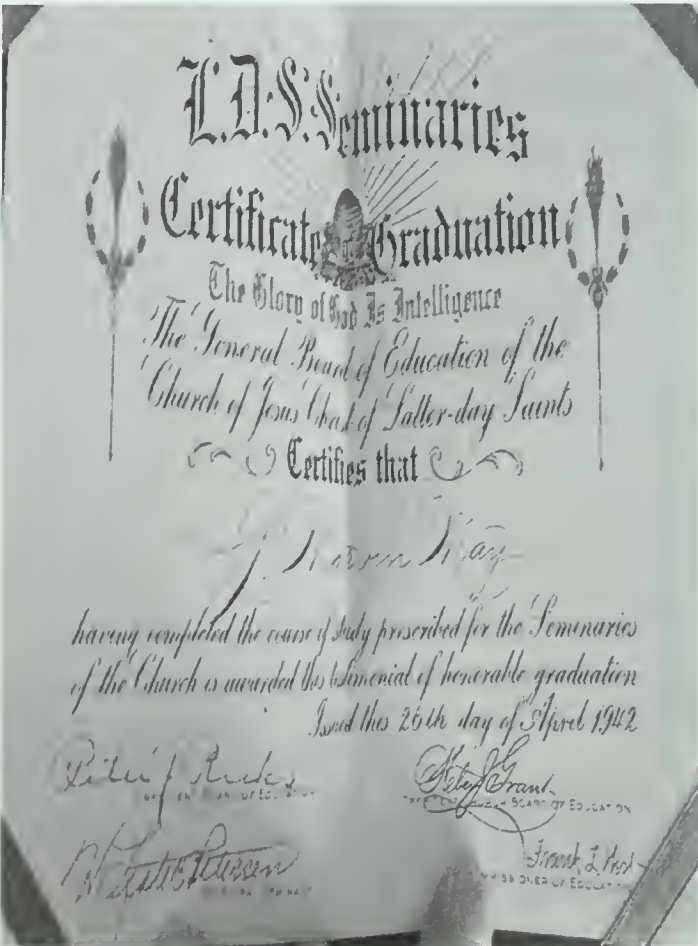
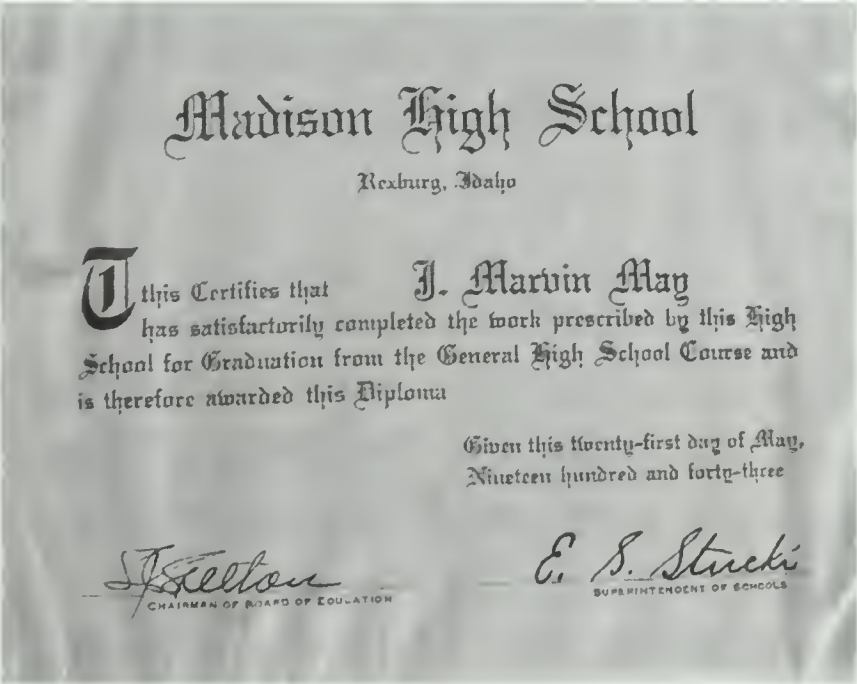
kindling and Marvin and Glenn would get out of bed and hurry to the stove in the main room of the log cabin where they would get warm as they dressed. The bedrooms were unheated and in the wintertime the boys would wake up to frost on the bedding from the moisture from their breath.

The school that Marvin first attended was a two-room school with a couple in charge. He remembers Byron and Phoebe Christensen teaching the first four grades and then Vernal and Wilma Lofthouse were hired.

Grades 1-4 were in one room and 4-8 were in the "big room". There were a total of about 10 people in the whole school. The last year of grade school the school burned and school was held in the church located just north of the school. Marvin remembers that Glenn was in the same grade most of those years. Marvin does not remember what happened to have the class held back a year. He graduated from the Grovont grade school on June 15, 1939 and was awarded a diploma from the Teton County Wyoming school district. Vernal Lofthouse signed the diploma.



After graduating from grade school Marvin and Glenn were sent to Rexburg, Idaho to attend Madison high school. The Jackson schools were considered too secular and Clifton and Fay wanted the LDS influence in the lives of their sons. Marvin, Glenn and their Aunt Arva who





Band member Marvin May with Clarinet

is younger than Marvin and older than Glenn, all went to high school together. They boarded with Rosetta Parkinson for two years and Flossy McGarrey for the last two years. Extracurricular activities for Marvin during the high school years were playing a clarinet in the band and singing in the choir. He also graduated from L.D.S Seminary on 26 June 1942 while attending Madison High School. He graduated from Madison High School June 1943.



Marvin on "Old Maude"

In the summers of their high school years they would return home to work on the ranch. Memories include many trips back and forth between Grovont and Rexburg. Especially in the summer there were numerous unauthorized trips in their fathers old 1929 Model A Ford as Glenn and Marvin would drive the old car between watering and oil stations. They would stop and get used oil to put in the car to keep it running. Marvin remembers filling the gas tank at his grandfather's gas pump, many times without

authorization as he knew where grandfather kept the key to the gasoline. Summertime was crop time on Mormon Row. Marvin being the oldest grandchild was given privileges on the tractor and he would trade shifts with his Uncles Wayne and Leland as they kept the old Farmall M running around the clock plowing, planting and harvesting the hay and grain. This left his younger brothers Glenn and Jack to herd the sheep and this remains a vivid and not too pleasant memory in Glenn's mind.

Sunday always included church at the little L.D.S. church on Mormon Row that Clifton had helped build when he was a young man. The alternative was to work in the fields and going to church was preferred to spending another day in the fields. Marvin remembers

his grandmother May singing loudly in church and always crying when she would bear her testimony. The livestock had to be tended on Sunday and the sheep had an abbreviated time out of the corrals that day. The milk cows also had to be milked twice on Sunday as they did each day of the week.

Growing up on Mormon Row was not entirely idyllic as current visitors to Jackson Hole might presume. There were always chores and hard work needed by every member of the family. The formal schooling was part of the upbringing and the schooling of life was augmented by association with Uncle Wayne, just eight years older than Marvin and the bachelor younger brother of Clifton. Wayne was born with a cleft pallet and did not marry until late in life. He lived with his parents and was the mentor of life experiences,



L.D.S. Church, built by Marvin's Great Grandfather, James Ira May, in 1917 and where Marvin went to church in his early years

although he had never experienced many of the life experiences that he mentored, to all of the young men on Mormon Row!

Marvin met and fell in love with a beautiful blond girl by the name of Doris Muir while he was in high school. They married immediately after high school on June 29, 1943 in the Salt Lake Temple. They lived for a short time in what was known as the honeymoon cottage that Leland May had built on Mormon Row. They then moved back to Rexburg where Marvin got a job in the creamery.

As Marvin's life was progressing through his high school years the world was at war. World War II was raging in Europe. It was



Newlyweds Marvin and Doris in front of "Honeymoon" Cottage on Mormon Row, 1943

inevitable that Marvin would be drafted and the communication between him and his draft board in Jackson, Wyoming confirmed this when on February 27, 1943 he received notice to report for a physical examination. On February 23, 1943 he received notification that the examination

NOTICE TO REGISTRANT
TO APPEAR FOR
PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Feb. 27, 1943
(Date of mailing)

You are directed to report for physical examination by the local board examiner at the time and place designated below:

Local Board Office, Rexburg, Idaho
(Place of examination)

between 9 and 5 any time within the next week.
at _____ m., on _____, 19____

This examination will be of a preliminary nature, for the purpose of disclosing only obvious physical defects, and will not finally determine your acceptance or rejection by the armed forces.

If you are so far from your local board area that reporting for the above physical examination will constitute a hardship, you may submit a request to your local board for reference to another local board for preliminary physical examination. Your request must include the following information:

1. The reasons for your request for reference to another local board.
2. The designation (name and location) of the local board having jurisdiction over the area in which you are now located.

Failure to comply with this notice will result in your being declared a delinquent to the penalties provided by law.

D. S. S. Form 201
(Rev. 4-1-42)

Member-Clerk

would take place at Rexburg, Idaho. His classification as a student was confirmed on April 14, 1943. Uncle Sam was very aware of Marvin May and had plans to use him in the war!

ORDER REFERRING REGISTRANT TO ANOTHER LOCAL BOARD
FOR PHYSICAL EXAMINATION ONLY

INSTRUCTIONS

1. The local board of the registrant shall prepare this form in triplicate. It shall send one copy to the local board to which it refers the registrant for physical examination only, together with three copies of Form 200 filled out by it in the manner provided in paragraph 337 of the Regulations, and one copy to the registrant, and place the third copy in the registrant's cover sheet.
2. The local board to which the registrant is referred for physical examination only shall retain the copy of the order which it receives in its files, together with the third copy of Form 200 when completed.

Local Board No. 1
Teton County
Feb 23 1943 001
Teton County Board
(Under local board)
Jackson, Wyoming

February 16, 1943
Date

To LOCAL BOARD No. 1
Rexburg, Idaho

In accordance with section XX of the Selective Service Regulations you are requested to have

J. (initial only) Marvin May
(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)

Order No. 10,222, whose present address is 260 So. First West
Rexburg, Idaho

physically examined.

Member of Local Board.

D. S. S. Form 201
(Rev. 4-1-42)

SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM
LOCAL BOARD NUMBER 1
TETON COUNTY,
JACKSON, WYOMING
(STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD)

April 14, 1943

J. Marvin May
269 So. First West
Rexburg, Idaho

Dear Mr. May:

The enclosed classification card shows your present classification as a student.

If you go to work on a ranch notify us immediately as this will change your rating to the classification of II-C. Your experience as shown in your records qualifies you for agricultural work, which is very essential.

Sincerely yours,

LOCAL BOARD I, JACKSON, WYO.
Lester R. Dobbs, Chairman

By *Valen M. Reynolds*
Clerk



CONGRATULATIONS on your GRADUATION in May!

Marvin May – Military Experience (1944-1946)

Compiled by Vern T. May, August 2007

Amended and included in this history September 2012



J Marvin May was inducted into the army 21 Jun 1944 at Fort Logan in Colorado¹, after having taken his physical in Denver on May 24-25, 1944². The official entry reads: *(This information was taken from the official Army Records file. Some information is disputed and corrected by Marvin (in red))*

1 National Archives and Records Administration. U.S. World War II Enlistment Records, 1938-1946, J M, b. 1924

2 Hadden Maria Wood May Diaries 1937-1966, compiled by Vern T. May, p. 142

U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938-1946

Name:

J M May

Birth Year:

1924 (August 9, 1924 in Grovont, Teton, Wyoming)

Race:

White, citizen (White)

Nativity State or Country:

Wyoming

State:

Idaho

County or City:

Madison

Enlistment Date:

21 Jun 1944 (Marvin says he did not enlist but was drafted!)

Enlistment State:

Colorado

Enlistment City:

Fort Logan

Branch:

No branch assignment

Branch Code:

No branch assignment

Grade:

Private

Grade Code:

Private

Term of Enlistment:

Enlistment for the duration of the War or other emergency, plus six months, subject to the discretion of the President or otherwise according to law

Component:

Selectees (Enlisted Men)

Source:

Civil Life

Education:

4 years of high school

Marital Status:

Single, without dependents

Height: 0 (5" 11")

Weight: 000 (180#)

He was drafted for the duration of the war of other emergency, plus six months, subject to the discretion of the President or otherwise according to law.

Marvin had just gotten married to Doris Muir a year previous on 29 Jun 1943. He had spent that first summer in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, living in the "Honeymoon Cottage"

on Mormon Row. Doris recalled the experience many years later: “Anyway, when we got home again, Marvin loaded up the May family pick-up with my stuff and we started our married life in Mormon Row in a little two room log cabin. It was a cute little place, one big room. Kitchen, living and dining all in one room, then a bedroom. (there was no electricity, plumbing or water). There was an irrigation ditch out front where Marvin washed up after working in the fields. The house was south of the big ranch on the other side of the road, I’d guess a mile from Marvin’s folks...

When the farm work was all done and the cattle had been gathered on the range, Marvin and I decided to move back to Rexburg. He knew he was going to have to go in the service very soon. So back to Rexburg, close to my folks. We rented a cabin from Uncle Fred and Aunt Myrtle and Marvin found a job in the Creamery. He soon got his call and had to return back to Jackson to be called into the Army, this was May of 1944, I think.³”

Marvin recalled the war experience as he sat with his siblings at the C.H. May sibling reunion, 28 July 2007, in Mt. View, Wyoming. He recalled taking his 17-week training at Ft. McCellan, Alabama and after his training having a furlough and home leave. He then boarded the train in Rock Springs, Wyoming for the journey to the war on November 18th. He knew that he was going directly overseas as an infantry replacement soldier. He went immediately from Ft. Logan to Ft. McClellan, Alabama. Ft. McClellan was a major training base during WW II, training over 500,000 men for the war and has continued to be an important Army base, while Ft. Logan, on the other hand was closed in 1946 and converted to a VA hospital and state mental health center. It was probably due to the prominence of Ft. McClellan that Marvin passed through there on his way to Europe. He did not stay long and then went to Ft. Meade, Maryland and from Ft. Meade he boarded the *USS Wakefield* bound from Boston for Liverpool England. Marvin recalls the name of the ship and the fact that all of the troops onboard were replacement troops. This may account for the fact that the *Wakefield* is not listed among the 1944 Troop Ship Crossings for December 1944. She sailed November 10, 1944 from Boston to Liverpool with the 81st Engineer Combat Battalion and part of the 106th Infantry Division. I assume that the replacement troops, being not identified with any particular unit at this time, did not warrant listing in this table, but it was December 12, 1944 that she left Boston for Liverpool. The crossing was unescorted. Marvin recalls that they zigzagged to and fro to avoid submarine detection all across the Atlantic until they got within range of England where they were met with an airplane escort.

From the Navy History web page⁴ we learn that the *SS Manhattan*, a 24,189 ton luxury passenger liner was taken over by the government and converted to a troop ship and renamed the *USS Wakefield*. Here are some excerpts and information about the ship.

On 10 February 1944, the USS Wakefield was re-commissioned at Boston, with Capt. R. L. Raney, USCO, in command. She departed Boston on 13 April, beginning the first

3 Personal correspondence from Doris Myers to Shirley Barnes, December 1998, copy in possession of Vern. T. May

4 <http://www.historycentral.com/navy/ap/Wakefield.html>

of 23 round-trips in the Atlantic theater and three in the Pacific. Between 13 April 1944 and 1 February 1946, Wakefield transported 110,563 troops to Europe and brought some 106,674 men back to America—a total of 217,237 passengers.

In many cases, the Wakefield operated as a “lone wolf,” except for air coverage a few miles out of a port. Her primary port of call in the European theater was Liverpool—visited so often in fact that the transport’s crew nicknamed her “The Boston and Liverpool Ferry.” The average round-trip voyage took 18 days.

After D-day, 6 June 1944, Wakefield began the first of her trips as a casualty evacuation ship, bringing home wounded GI’s. On occasion, she also brought back German prisoners of war for internment in the United States. Sometimes she even carried both evacuees and prisoners on the same voyage. After 13 trips to Liverpool, the Wakefield was sent to the Mediterranean theater to carry men and equipment to Italy.

USS Wakefield, AP-21
 (ex-SS Manhattan)
 Length: 705’
 Beam: 86’
 Draft: 31’
 Displacement: 33,650 (1944)
 Commissioned: June, 1941 (originally commissioned as SS Manhattan in 1931)
 Decommissioned:
 Disposition: Sold for scrap, 1965
 Complement: 934
 Troop capacity: 6,000
 Armament: 4 x 5”; 4 x 3”/50 cal.; 8 x .50-cal. mg

After arriving in Liverpool on December 20, 1944 they boarded a train to South Hampton, England where Marvin boarded an English vessel for the channel crossing. Marvin does not remember the name of the ship, only that it had been rammed in the side and that they took three days to cross the channel, as they did not want to rev the engines and make noise in fear of attracting German submarines. From Le Havre, France, a city in Normandy, northern France, on the English Channel and at the mouth of the Seine, the replacement troops boarded trains to Elsenborn, Belgium where they were to be assigned their specific units. They arrived at Elsenborn on Christmas Day 1944.

Elsenborn, Belgium, while it was a staging point in December 1944, had only been



Indian Head Patch that Marvin wore on his left shoulder. Note the tear just below the headdress where the shrapnel pierced his shoulder ending his war and earning him the purple heart

liberated on November 10, 1944 by the 99th Reconnaissance Troop. On December 16, 1944 the Battle of the Bulge started and that was where Marvin was headed. The first assault of what became known as The Battle of the Bulge was directed at the Elsenborn Ridge by the 6th SS Panzer Army. The defending Allied units were the 2nd and 99th Infantry Divisions. Marvin was assigned to the 2nd Indian Head Division of the 23rd Infantry Regiment of the 1st Army.

The History of the 23rd Infantry Regiment in World War Two⁵ tells the story of what Marvin lived through those fateful days from December to April 16, 1945 when he took shrapnel in his shoulder, ending his combat service.

The first ceremony of American troops on German soil was a 23d Infantry parade in November, south of St. Vith. Major General W. M. Robertson, Divisional Commander, presented decorations for heroism to officers and men of the Regiment. On 12 December, the Regiment moved 30 miles north to the vicinity of Sourbrodt, Belgium.

The German break-through on 16 December found all three of the battalions of the 23d Infantry fighting savagely in the line. The failure of the enemy to accomplish a penetration in the division sector, despite repeated tank and strong infantry attacks, upset the entire German plan of action to reach and cut off the vital supply nets at Liege. The Regiment stopped attack after bloody attack. This action was summed up by General Courtney Hodges, Commanding General of the 1st Army, who declared, "What the 2nd Division has done in the last four days will live forever in the history of the United States Army."

During the period of 13 to 23 Jan. while attached to the First Division, the Regiment fought under the most severe climatic conditions. It spearheaded a drive that broke the determined enemy resistance in the vital Ondenval-Iveldingen Pass to clear the way for armored thrusts into St. Vith, Belgium. Sleet, rain and bitter cold froze the men's clothing to their bodies as they struggled through waist-deep snow over rough terrain. The enemy forces, principally the 8th Regiment, 3rd Panzer Division, were decimated. So heavy were enemy losses in men and material that the 8th Regiment ceased to exist as a fighting force.

Soon after, the 23d Infantry Regiment was again on the offensive in the Siegfried Line, pushing through the Schleiden Forest to reach the vitally important Roer River dams. Early in March the regiment drove to the Rhine. The crossing was made on the 23d of March in the vicinity of Niederbreisig, five miles south of the famed Remagen Bridge.

From this point, mounted on tanks and tank destroyers, infantrymen of the 23d made a spectacular 365-mile drive in 23 days to the vicinity of industrialized Meresburg, Germany, just west of Leipzig. Thousands of PWs, hundreds of towns and an American PW camp were captured in this dash, a record seldom equaled elsewhere in military annals.

It would have been at the end of this 23-day march that Marvin was wounded, April 16, 1945. His memory confirms that it took place just outside Leipzig.

In the face of direct fire from over 200 guns of 88 and 128-mm caliber, the 23d

5 http://home.thirdage.com/military/friends2idww2/Regimental_History_23rd_IR_1945.html, The History of the 23rd Infantry Regiment in World War Two



doughboys cleared one of Germany's most concentrated flak areas. Sweeping on they entered Leipzig, the fifth largest of German cities. The assault on Leipzig was determined and coordinated, with four bridge-crossings being made simultaneously. In a few hours the attack had reached the objective and the city had fallen. The next advance was halted at the Mulde River, the limit of U.S. Advance. There the Regiment awaited contact with the Russian Army.

At the end of the war Colonel Jay B. Lovless issued this message, which summarizes the deeds of the 23rd and gives an inkling of the debt we owe them. This message of appreciation and acknowledgement was addressed to J. Marvin May and his combat brethren of the 23rd.

TO: OFFICERS AND MEN OF RCT 23:

From D plus 2 to V - E Day, this combat team has advanced 1,665 miles against a clever and vicious enemy, has taken 17,253 prisoners, has never once been driven from ground once gained, has constantly defeated all enemy units in its path. No combat team in the ETO has a better record of thoroughness, skill and never-ending success.

It is most fitting now, on the completion of the war in Europe, that full tribute be paid to all present and former members of this combat team. It truly has been a team, magnificent in ever-willing, co-operative, eager, intelligent teamwork that has brought success repeatedly and without fail.

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
226TH (US) GENERAL HOSPITAL
813TH HOSPITAL CENTER
AFC 513 U.S. ARMY

27 Apr 45

GENERAL ORDER

NUMBER 160

PURPLE HEART Award I
PURPLE HEART Award (Oak Leaf Cluster) II

I By direction of the President under the provisions of AR 600-45, as amended and Sec I, par 3 (2), Cir 32, HQ USA, dated 20 Mar 44, as amended, the PURPLE HEART is awarded to the following named EM for wounds received as a result of enemy action, place and date as indicated.

RANK	NAME	ASN	A/S	PLACE WOUNDED	DATE WOUNDED	ENTERED MIL SV FILE
S/Sgt	Padilla, Martin C	38581142	Inf	Germany	12 Apr 45	N Mex
Sgt	Lee, Futrell H	20402541	Inf	Germany	19 Dec 44	Ga
Tec 5	Miller, Kenneth H	33766252	Engr	Germany	15 Apr 45	Pa
Pfc	Abramski, Raymond	26157232	Inf	Germany	18 Apr 45	Wis
Pfc	Borgers, Otto F	27605275	Inf	Germany	17 Apr 45	Mo
Pfc	May, Marvin	37365017	Inf	Germany	16 Apr 45	Wyo
Pfc	Sealey, Walter	4211071	Inf	Germany	16 Apr 45	NJ
Pfc	Shovajsa, John T	38	PD	Germany	13 Apr 45	Tex
Pfc	Teague, Howard	34	CWS	Germany	6 Apr 45	Tenn
Pvt	Moulaison, Joseph E	311	Inf	Germany	20 Apr 45	Mass
Pvt	Melton, James C	381	Inf	Germany	20 Apr 45	Tex
Pvt	Millett, Joseph E	391	Inf	Germany	16 Apr 45	Calif

II By direction of the President under the provisions of AR 600-45, as amended and Sec I, par 3 (2), Cir 32, HQ USA, dated 20 Mar 44, as amended, the OAK LEAF CLUSTER is awarded for wounds received as a result of enemy action, in addition to the PURPLE HEART previously awarded, to the fol named EM, place and date as indicated:

RANK	NAME	ASN	A/S	PLACE WOUNDED	DATE WOUNDED	ENTERED MIL SV FILE
Pfc	Angevine, Edwin V	355 361	Inf	Germany	16 Apr 45	Chi

By order of Lieutenant Colonel BARSKY:

J E COLENSO
1st Lt., MAC
Adjutant

OFFICIAL:

J E COLENSO
1st Lt., MAC
Adjutant

RESTRICTED

Letter dated April 27, 1945 listing Marvin May as a recipient of the Purple Heart medal

Bitter, dogged fighting against every imaginable adverse combination of terrain, weather and enemy forces has resulted in thinning the numbers of company and battery rosters. Always, however, the ranks have been filled and the baton passed to capable new hands.

Some have remained on the team throughout the war in Europe. Many have fallen bravely. Many have joined the team along the way as reinforcements, quickly to become veterans. In every action, however, the teamwork has been improved and the smooth efficiency of the fighting machine has been more deadly in conquering the enemy.

I am deeply and humbly proud to be your commander. Each one of you, I know, is justly proud of your own fine part played on the team and of the splendid feats of your comrades and each of our component units.

I know you all join me in gratitude that we have finished this chapter of the war with such honor and glory. If we are called upon to repeat our performance on other battlefields, we shall be ready.

Marvin's memories of this experience include his assignment to the 23rd, being issued an M1 rifle, complete with bayonet, a 45 handgun and being assigned to a 30-caliber water cooled machine-gun, along with two other soldiers. He also had experience with the 81 mm mortars. The replacement troops marched to the front line from Elsenborn and joined a cold and bitter battle. He remembers being sick one night and finding lodging in a German home. Normally they slept outdoors in the bitter cold. He was lying on the floor near a stove when a German Fraulein came and gave him some goat's milk, an act of kindness he remembers to this day.

As part of the effort to get details of Marvin's war experience, a letter that he wrote to Doris, dated May 14, 1945 from a hospital near Birmingham, England surfaced. Here are the historical contents of the letter:

"Now that the censor restriction has lifted a little I can give you an idea of where I've been and so forth. When I left Ft. Mead I went to Camp "Myle Standish" [Camp Myles Standish is a U.S. Army camp located in Tauton, Massachusetts] port of embarkation, from there to Boston where I left good old U.S. Soil and walked up the gang plank into what used to be the Luxery (sic) Liner USS Manhatten (sic) but is now converted into the troop ship "Wakefield". We pushed off Dec 12, 1944 and arrived at Liverpool England the 30th. Got on a train there and went around through London and down to South Hampten where we boarded another large troop ship and crossed the English Channel. We landed at LeHarve, France and got on box cars, went around by Paris and up near Belgium where I was assigned to my outfit, then I got on a truck and joined my outfit which was up near Elsenborn Belgium, just the other side of Liege. There is where the fighting began, the enemy was on our two flanks as well as our front. From there we went into Germany, broke through the Segfried line, crossed the Rine River at the Right of Cologne, went through Limburg, Kossel, Gottenbon and 40 million other towns that I can't recall the name of. Was hit on the morning of April 16 just a few miles this side

of "Leipzig" as you have probley (sic) heard, the 2nd and 69th took Leipzig. I don't know where my outfit went from there. I rode back a ways by ambulance and then was put on a C-47 and flew to a Hospital near Reams, France where I stayed for over twenty days. From there I got on a C-46 which is larger than the C-47 and flew to England. Was first at a Hospital near "Kildermister" and now to this one near "Malvern", just a few miles from Birmingham".

While much of the misery of the war experience have been erased from Marvin's mind, another GI, Roscoe C. Blunt, Jr., kept detailed notes throughout his war experience and published them in the book "Inside the Battle of the Bulge"⁶ Blunt recorded several sentences describing conditions: "Conditions during the Bulge reduced most of us to insensitive, unfeeling, basic survivors."⁷, "On December 27, our problems in the field were compounded when it started to snow heavily again. If there was anything the American GIs in Belgium didn't need, it was more snow. But we couldn't do anything about it, just slouch shivering in our holes, throw anything we could find over our heads for protection from the elements and continue to exist and endure."⁸, "Hot food, during the rare times when it was available, solidified in our mess kits before we could eat it and water froze in our canteens, It was later published in Allied military newspapers that the winter of 1944 was the worst on record in 40 years for s now and bitter cold. *Stars & Stripes* wrote of 40-below-zero temperatures recorded during the Bulge."⁹

Much of the activities that took place were "mopping up" activities where the soldiers would go from house to house and remove the resistance. It was kill or be killed, Marvin remembers. They would often come under sniper fire, a terrifying experience. Marvin recalled entering a house and encountering a young German soldier coming down the stairs. When the German did not surrender, he was killed. That was the only kill that Marvin knew he was responsible for although he suspects there were many more from the firing of his machine gun into opposing enemy lines.

As they slogged through the Belgium and German countryside, wading in knee deep snow some of the time, sleeping out in the cold and constantly being cold and hungry, Marvin remembers seeing bodies of German soldiers stacked like cord wood. The American bodies were quickly retrieved and taken for burial, but the German bodies were not.

After the long and exhausting battles described above in the history of the 23rd and 111 days after he had arrived in Elsenborn, the war had advanced to near Leipsig, Germany. Marvin was walking behind a Mexican soldier, in broad daylight, on April 16, 1945, when suddenly they came under fire and the soldier in front was literally cut in half. Shrapnel glanced off Marvin's helmet and penetrated his shoulder and arm. His fighting days were ended. When the commotion of the battle died down and the medics reached Marvin they determined that he was ambulatory and did not need a stretcher. He was put on an evacuation Jeep and taken to the nearest field hospital. He remembers that even though the Jeep had a big red cross on the roof they were still shot at as they made their way to the hospital. At the field hospital he was stabilized, his arm was treated and put

6 Roscoe C. Blunt, Jr., *Inside the Battle of the Bulge*, Praeger Publishers, 1994

7 Ibid, pg. 52

8 Ibid, pg 63

9 Ibid, pg 66

in a sling and he was then flown out of the battle zone.

Marvin was promoted from private to private first class on March 17, 1945. He was eligible for advancement to rank of sergeant when he was wounded, but ended the war with rank of PFC.

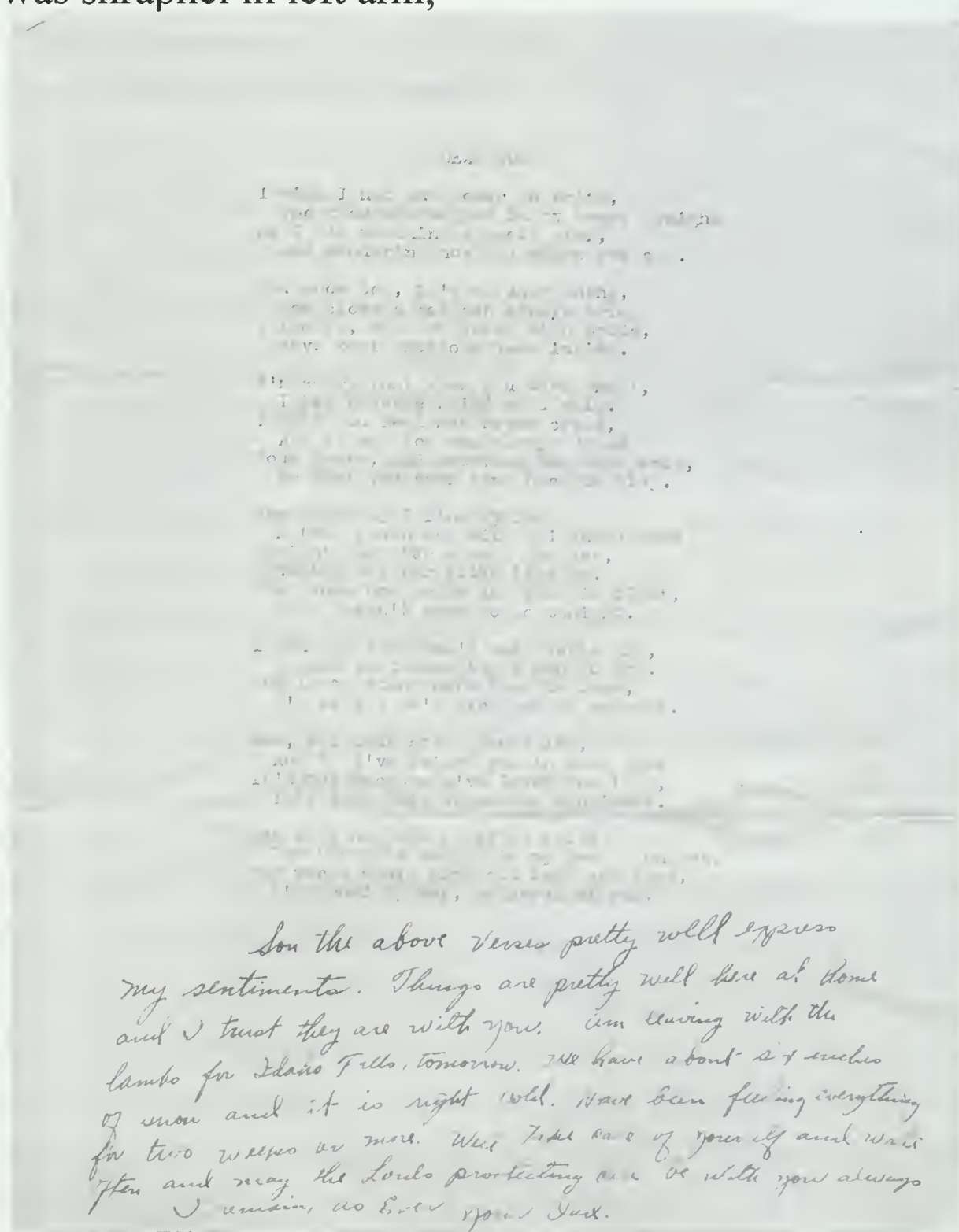
Marvin was transported from the front line to an airport where he boarded as C-47, the military equivalent of the DC-3 and flown from Leipzig, Germany and to Reims, France. While in the hospital at Reims he was awarded the Purple Heart medal. From Reims he was flown in a C-46 to Malvern, England and after a short period was put on the hospital ship the *USS Argentina* and transported back to the US, setting sail on May 28, 1945¹⁰. He landed at Boston on June 9th and then boarded a train for his trip to Walla Walla, Washington.

Word of his being wounded reached home on May 2, 1945. Grandmother May noted in her diary "Later – Notified Marvin was wounded the 16th so we are surely blue."¹¹ She noted later that week on May 4th, "Doris recd. Letter from Marvin & called Fay. His wound was shrapnel in left arm, but he was doing OK when he wrote the 20th from France. We are all so thankful. It could have been so much worse."

After reaching McCaw General Hospital in Walla Walla, Washington he was operated on to try and splice the nerve in his arm back together. He then began his long recovery. From June 19th to June 25th Marvin's wife and mother were with him in Walla Walla¹². He then was sent to Madigan Army Hospital in Tacoma, Washington for more convalescing. In July he was given a 90-day furlow which he spent at home in Rexburg and Grovont. He must have recovered pretty well in that Grandmother May recorded that he shot two elk on November 14, 1945!¹³ Marvin was medically discharged out of the service at



Marvin, on right, with nurse and buddy at Madigan Army Medical Center 1945



So the above verses pretty well express my sentiments. Things are pretty well here at home and I trust they are with you. I'm leaving with the lambs for Idaho Falls, tomorrow. We have about 24 inches of snow and it is right cold. Have been fleeing everything for two weeks or more. What take care of yourself and write often and may the Lords protecting care be with you always I remain, as ever your Jack.

10 Ibid – p. 160

11 Hadden Maria Wood May Diaries 1937-1966, compiled by Vern T. May, p. 158

12 Ibid – p.161

13 Ibid – p.168

Bushnell Hospital in Brigham City, Utah on April 18, 1946¹⁴.

One poignant memory that remains with Marvin is when he received the one and only letter he ever received from his father. He doesn't remember just when he received it, thinking it may have been when he was in the hospital in Reims, France. The letter had been sent before his being wounded. He remembers the emotions that swept over him when he read it. A copy of the original letter is shown above.

The letters that Marvin wrote to Doris during his convalescence at Madigan Hospital in Tacoma reveal a very bored wounded soldier. He had made contact with a couple of acquaintances from Idaho, Wayne Ricks for one, and they would get off base and visit the nearby cities. He had his own car the last months that he was there. He and Doris were planning for the future. Marvin was excited with Doris' pregnancy and frequently asked how the baby was coming along. They were also negotiating a loan for \$5000 to build a house and agonized when the estimates came in at \$5500. It was obvious that time was going by slowly for both of them.



Marv with Craig

When the war was over it was time to begin life anew. At the time of his discharge Doris was eight months pregnant with their first child. Craig Marvin May would arrive in this world on May 30, 1946 and the little family quickly settled down to make a new life.

When they returned to Rexburg Marv went to work for the creamery and they lived in a cabin owned by Doris' uncle Fred until they bought a house on Highway 91 towards the outskirts of town. A little over a year later they built a basement house at 219 North 3rd East in Rexburg. Marv remembers hiring the contractor to dig the hole and then digging another hole for

the septic tank. Sometime prior to the spring of 1950 they moved into their new basement home and lived there until shortly before their move to California in April 1959.

About 1950 Marv left the Creamery and bought a gas station in downtown Rexburg. He operated this gas station until he joined the police department April 1, 1951. Marvin said that he never worked so hard in his life running the gas station, working day and night. He never made any money and to add insult to injury the man he hired to help him stole money from him. He was happy to have this experience behind him.

William Muir, Doris' father, worked for the police force in Rexburg and was able to help Marv get a job there. He joined the force April 1, 1951. He enjoyed police work



Marv and "Outhouse"

Mar 1951



Marvin and Craig 1951



Marvin outside his Rexburg Gas Station

and quickly moved up and was appointed Chief of Police on August 19, 1955. There are many accounts in the local paper of his activities and directives (See Appendix 2). He resigned from the force when he moved his family to California in April 1959

Cars have always been a love of Marvin's. He has owned many cars over his life time and towards the end of his career as Chief of Police he would go to Salt Lake City to the auto auction and purchase

cars for individuals, making a few dollars on the side with each transaction. From the records found in Appendix 2, it would appear that the profit would have hardly offset the cost of the trip to Salt Lake. The activity simply fed his love of automobiles.

When Marvin was asked who his best friend was he replied with two names: Wayne Egan and Dick Chantrill. Wayne was his car buddy and they spent a lot of time while Marvin was living in Rexburg, travelling back and forth to Salt Lake City to the automobile auction there, buying cars to bring back to Rexburg and sell to friends and acquaintances. Dick Chantrill had an airplane and he and Marvin would fly over the Teton peaks down into Jackson Hole and land in a hay field. Marvin recalls the tight knuckle take off's as they would just clear the telephone lines.

Marvin and Doris had purchased a 10x50 mobile home and lived in it the last 10 months of their residence in Rexburg. They moved the trailer to Ventura, California in 1959 and Marv went to work for Maulhardt Buick in Oxnard, California selling cars.

The move from Idaho to California was prompted by a troubled marriage. The marriage to Doris ended January 19, 1962. Marvin married Mary Jane Chester September 23, 1962.



**Bartender Marvin May
Love's Restaurant**

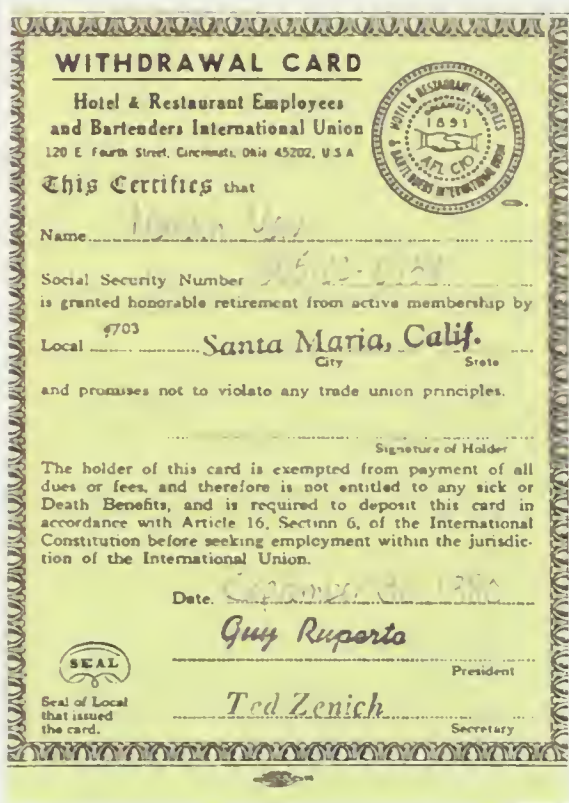
Marvin and Janie took up residence in Sylmar, California where Marvin was employed by Industrial Security Police in El Segundo, California and went to work as a security guard for North American Aviation. North American Aviation was sold in 1967.

About that time Marvin and Janie moved to Uath where Marvin worked security for Thiokol for about 2 years. He does not remember why he left but returned to California in 1969 and went to Modern School of Bartending in Studio City, California and got his first bartending job at Loves restaurant in Woodland Hills, California.

Later in 1969 Marv and Janie moved to Victor, Idaho where he worked as a bartender for the Timberline for one season and then at Targee



**Marvin with Dick
Chantrill and his plane.
Mormon Row hay field,
1947**



Resort for one season. While there he and Janie were divorced.

Marv returned to California in 1971 and attended Craig's marriage to Carol A. William on June 23, 1971. Ryder May was born on September 24, 1973. The marriage of Craig and Carol did not last but Marv was now a grandfather.

A third marriage, this one to Patricia Jo Acker took place August 9, 1972 in San Luis Obispo, California. The marriage did not last and they were later divorced. He had resumed his bartending career when he returned from Victor, Idaho. This was how, in 1978, he met Justine Diane Almy Pease and her 2 children, Steven and Candy. Justine was house hunting in San Luis Obispo as she was being transferred there by Pacific Bell.

It was shortly after Justine and children moved to Morro Bay that Marv traded his small motorcycle for a large Suzuki 1000 touring bike. When Steven and Candy went to visit their father in Hawaii for the summer Marv put Justine on the bike and took her to meet the May clan. That was the beginning of what is so far a 34 year adventure.

Marv ended his bartending career on September 30, 1980, resigning from the union. He then went to bus driver training school to be a school bus driver. He was employed by San Luis Obispo School District and drove the bus for the Special Education Department. He was very well suited for this job. He not only got along very well with both the Special Education children and their parents, but really enjoyed having those kids on his bus. And he got to drive... a bus no less. His route would take him up and down the coast on beautiful California Highway 1. He would often comment on how marvelous it was to be able to drive along the coast every day and get paid for it.



Wedding Party - June 22, 1985
Marvin, Craig, Justine, Candy Steven

In January 1983 Pacific Bell closed its San Luis Obispo office and Justine was transferred to Sacramento. Marv stayed behind for 6 months with Steven so he could finish high school. That June, after Steve graduated, Marv left his school bus driving behind and moved to Rancho Cordova, California. There he and Justine purchased a lot and built a home at 11133 Rhine River Court, Rancho Cordova, California.



Marv with granddaughters
Britney Ann and Renea Justine

Marvin took more bus driver training and went to work driving a tour bus for Amador Tour Company. He drove tour busses over the Sierra Nevada Mountains to Reno and Lake Tahoe in good weather and bad. When he wasn't driving a bus, he and Justine would get on the bike and take the same route just for fun. They were married

June 22, 1985. It just seemed it was the time to do that. All 3 children involved seemed happy about it. All three participated in the wedding. Craig was Best Man, Candy was Maid of Honor and Steven gave the bride away. It was truly a family event.

Marv and Justine continued to take to the road whenever time off work was available. One of these early trips was to Long Beach, California to see the famous Spruce Goose and the Queen Mary which had been turned into a museum and hotel. A portion of the ship had been turned into exhibits as to how the luxury liner had been converted to a troop ship during World War II. Marv said that the exhibits looked exactly like the ship he was on when he was shipped to Europe. The exhibits obviously brought back vivid memories as he was crying when he saw them and said he was only 19 and never been so scared in his life. He seldom talked about his service days or the war but it was apparent that his memories were buried deeply within him. They spent the night in a stateroom on the ship and



**Marvin and Craig with
School Bus**



First 5th Wheel Trailer

it was then that he said the next time he sleeps on a ship it had better be moving. Little did he know then how much travel lay ahead.

By 1989 Steven had graduated college and Candy was married to Gary Coats. They were now empty nesters. Candy gave birth to Britney Ann Coats on September 30, 1989 and Renea Justine Coats on February 24, 1992. Marv now had two granddaughters.

Craig married Maj-Britt Sandstone on October 24, 1992 in Ojai, California. Marvin and Justine were there for the wedding.

In 1990 Marvin left Amador Stage lines and returned to driving a school bus. He worked for San Juan Unified School District in the Special Education Department. He was once again doing something he really enjoyed. Marvin has a special rapport with the special education kids.

He would come home with stories about how he chased the local chickens with the bus, much to the delight of all on



**Marvin Cruising the Rhine river. On this
cruise he passed the spot where 58 years
prior he crossed as a soldier.**

board. He would tell of doing some serious girl watching with a couple of the boys. Fortunately his bosses never caught him, nor did they find him hiding his bus while he stopped



**Mormon Row Farm Boy gone
Cosmopolitan**



Standing on Great Wall in China

ships, airplanes and miscellaneous other conveyances of transportation. Since that first trip they have been to 56 countries and traveled on every sort of transportation and seen things during these journeys that one cannot even imagine.

Marvin has been in commercial airliners, jets and prop, private planes, helicopters and even a B-52 bomber. He has been on war ships, cruise ships, ferry boats, speed boats, row boats, canoes, water taxis and Chinese junks. He has traveled by bus, car, taxi, train, high speed train, subway, airway tram, golf cart and rickshaw. He did refuse rides on camels and elephants. He has eaten in the finest restaurants in the world and in places he just swallowed the food whole because he didn't know what it was. He has stayed in 5 star hotels and hotels with springs popping up through the mattress. He has been in castles made of gold and seen poverty that is unimaginable. Sailing on cruise ships did require some concessions on Marv's part. He had to wear a tuxedo to dinner. He always looks his best in a "tux" and doesn't seem to unhappy as seen here.

Marvin has seen the sun set on the Nile river and the sun rise on Mount Fuji. He has been on the living glaciers in Canada and inside the ancient pyramids in Egypt. He



The last of the trailers

for coffee. He retired in 1998 at the age of 74.

Justine had retired in 1996 so they were now able to continue with the travel they both enjoyed. Domestic travel usually was via their 5th wheel trailer. They started with a small outfit and in 1994 traded it in of a much larger one. It was 1986 when Marv when got his first passport. That year their first destination was to Hong Kong with their best friends. Travel became his new hobby. Cars and motorcycles had been replaced with cruise



Marvin's favorite mode of travel

He has traveled by bus, car, taxi, train, high speed train, subway, airway tram, golf cart and rickshaw. He did refuse rides on camels and elephants. He has eaten in the finest restaurants in the world and in places he just swallowed the food whole because he didn't know what it was. He has stayed in 5 star hotels and hotels with springs popping

up through the mattress. He has been in castles made of gold and seen poverty that is unimaginable. Sailing on cruise ships did require some concessions on Marv's part. He had to wear a tuxedo to dinner. He always looks his best in a "tux" and doesn't seem to unhappy as seen here.

Marvin has seen the sun set on the Nile river and the sun rise on Mount Fuji. He has been on the living glaciers in Canada and inside the ancient pyramids in Egypt. He



Marvin standing on the slab where the Dayton Home would be built

has seen the red lava flow into the ocean

in Hawaii and the steam from the volcanoes in Papa New Guinea. He has been in Red Square and Tiananmen Square. He has seen more than he ever thought possible and yet still marvels when he flips a switch and a light comes on.

Marvin and Justine set out to travel the USA in 2001 when Marv retired. They spent several months in their 5th

wheel trailer, seeing what they wanted to see, and got as far as Chicago. They arrived in Illinois to see Ryder May marry Suzanne Tulacka on July 20, 2001, Spencer Williams May was born August 22, 2005. Marvin was now a great grandfather. A few months after the birth, Marv and Justine flew to Woodridge, Illinois to meet the new great grandson. A little brother, Landen Ryder May was born July 10, 2007. Unfortunately Great Grandpa Marvin and Landen have not met.

When they returned home from a river trip in Europe (2003) they sold their house in Rancho Cordova, put all their belongings in storage, repacked the 5th wheel and set out to find a new home. They left Rancho Cordova after 20 years, the longest Marvin had lived in one place in his entire life. They spent time traveling up and down the West Coast. Justine liked the green of Washington and Marv liked the absence of trees in the desert. On one trip through the Carson City, Nevada area Marv said he was tired of driving and was uncomfortable pulling the large 5th wheel trailer. He said this is a good a place as any to live, parked the trailer and started building the house in Dayton, Nevada. It was 2003 and Marvin was 81 years old.

They sold their 5th wheel, moved into their new home in Dayton, Nevada in February 2004 and started the next phase of life's journey.

In 2006 they took their last international trip. Steven married Rebecca Auman on October 3, 2009 in Yosemite, California. Marv and Justine attended the wedding and that was Marv's last trip away from home. Marv is happier to stay at home, but the empty nest ended in January 2009 when granddaughter Britney came to live with gammy and papa, followed by her sister Renea in January 2011. For 3 ½ years the house was alive with young people who could eat and eat and eat. Both girls worked, went to school and brought the friends home. Then, sadly, in June 2012 both moved out and Marvin and Justine were once more empty nesters. Marv is happy doing things close to home. They have season tickets to the Reno Symphony and go to shows at the various venues in Reno. He occasionally dances with Justine in the kitchen, but he is happiest pulling the tail of the boss of the house, Crash, the cat left behind by Britney.

Britney said no biography about papa would be complete without mention of his eating habits. He is the original junk food junkie. He actually hides the junk food, but is willing to share, always at his discretion. Twinkies, cupcakes, Ding Dongs, HoHos and Oreos are among his favorites. He will also hide Hershey candy bars, Sees candy and anything else he covets. He got into the habit of eating out every day while living in the trailer waiting for the house in Dayton to be built, and to this day goes out daily to one of his favorite restaurants for lunch.

Marv's only health problems are related to mobility. He had the first of three hip replacements in 1989 and a knee replacement in 1997. He has the normal age related issues with sight and hearing. Other than that he enjoys good health. His major accomplishment recently is that the State of Nevada granted him a 4-year driving license at the age of 88! The state of Nevada thinks he is OK to drive, but Justine made him promise not to drive beyond Dayton City limits, about five miles from home.

Marvin's Family as of January 2013



Craig and Maj-Britt May



Ryder and Suzi May



*Three Generations - Marvin,
Craig and Ryder*



Spencer and Landen May



*Three more generations, spanning four
Marvin, Ryder and Spencer*



Marvin and Justine with their cat at home in Dayton 2012



Britney and Renea Coats with mother Candy



Steven and Rebecca Pease



Britney and Renea Coats with father Gary Coats

Shown below is a descendency chart that includes the descendants of Marvin and of Justine. This information was modified from a Legacy Family History database in the possession of Vern May. Shown are the marriages and descendants of both Marvin and Justine along with both of their parents with corresponding vital record dates.

1-Clifton Henrie May b. 10 Mar 1905, Grovont, Uinta, Wyoming USA, d. 15 Sep 1975, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah, United States

+Fay Tempest b. 13 May 1905, Rexburg, Fremont, Idaho, United States, d. 13 Oct 1974, Rexburg, Madison, Idaho, United States

2-J. Marvin May b. 9 Aug 1924, Grovont, Teton, Wyoming, USA

+Doris Muir b. 18 May 1925, Rexburg, Madison, Idaho, United States

3-Craig Marvin May b. 30 May 1946, Rexburg, Madison, Idaho, United States

+Carol Ann Williams b. 23 Jul 1949, Chicago, Cook, Illinois, USA

4-Ryder May b. 24 Sep 1973, Ventura, Ventura, California, USA

+Suzanne Tulacka b. 14 Jul 1977, Lagrange, , Illinois, USA

5-Spencer Williams May b. 22 Aug 2005, Woodridge, DuPage, Illinois, USA

5-Landen Ryder May b. 10 Jul 2007, Hinsdale, Cook, Illinois, United States

+MajBritt Sandstone

+Justine Diane Almy b. 29 Sep 1943, Oakland, Alameda, California, USA

+Patricia Jo Acker b. Abt 1935

+Mary Jane Chester

1-Clifford Henry Almy Jr. b. 5 Jan 1917, Arizona, United States, d. 6 Mar 2007, Walnut Creek, Contra Costa, California, USA

+Marjorie June Brockhurst b. 11 Jun 1918, California, United States, d. 3 Apr 1976, Walnut Creek, Contra Costa, California, USA

2-Justine Diane Almy b. 29 Sep 1943, Oakland, Alameda, California, USA

+J. Marvin May b. 9 Aug 1924, Grovont, Teton, Wyoming, USA

+Charles Allen Pease b. 14 Sep 1943

3-Sтивен Cary Pease b. 26 Jul 1965, Berkeley, Alameda, California, USA

+Rebecca Auman

3-Candy Lorraine Pease b. 15 Jan 1968, Berkeley, Alameda, California, USA

+Gary Coats

4-Britney Ann Coats b. 30 Sep 1989

4-Renea Justine Coats b. 24 Feb 1992

Postlude

To the Gentle Reader:

This book has been several years in the making. For many years Marvin's family has been fascinated but uninformed regarding his WW II experiences. He, like so many other of The Greatest Generation was very reluctant to discuss his painful memories. I took the bull by the horns, so to speak, at a family reunion in 2007 and directed specific questions to Marvin. To our collective surprise he was very direct and forth coming. I took those responses, accompanied by some research on The Battle of the Bulge, and penned a short history of his war experience. This short document was never published but was enjoyed by immediate family.

At the time of Marvin's 88th birthday, in a moment of reflection regarding his mortality, Marvin called me and suggested that he wanted to complete his memories of his life. This led to this book. Remarkable things happened in the course of compiling this book, not the least of which was a heightened interest on the part of Marvin's immediate family regarding his heritage and upbringing. This interest has fueled an ongoing series of discussions, particularly between Marvin and Justine that has resulted in the uncovering of buried memories. Now as the book is ready to go to the publisher yet another memory surfaced. Justine sent the following email to me just yesterday (January 30, 2013):

It is probably too late at this time to make any additions, but Marv just told me that when he was going to school on Mormon Row, school got out at 4pm and he had to be home by 4:30 ,or be in trouble, so he could do chores and milk the cows. When it got dark he was given a lantern for light and continued working in the dark until the chores were done. he did this even in the snow in the dead of winter.

It would be in context in the early years section where the paragraph states he grew up on Mormon Row... but that might throw the following pages out of sync. Just a thought .. future generations might not realize how tough it really was on a ranch.

Her input and question prompted me to append this Postlude to the book because Justine is correct. Marvin lived his life in a very unique period of history. Future generations will not realize what life was really like on a ranch. More particularly future generations of the May family will not realize what life was really like on a ranch on Mormon Row in Western Wyoming.

It all started when George May, Marvin's 3rd great grandfather, born June 20, 1809 in Cheveley, Berkshire, England, responded to the message of Mormon Missionaries in 1847 and joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He, along with his entire family, then joined the migration to Utah in 1852. The journey took its toll. George and Hannah did not survive the trip. They died and are buried, along with three of their children, in unmarked graves in the Winter Quarters area of Nebraska. Only four of their children survived the journey. One of the survivors was James May, Marvin's 2nd great grandfather, born June 1, 1832 in Cheveley, Berkshire, England. James, along with three of his younger siblings entered the Great Salt Lake Basin in October 1852. James later married Martha Allen and settled down in Box Elder County, Utah. Their firstborn was James Ira May, Marvin's great grandfather, born November 29, 1857 in Bountiful, Davis, Utah. James Ira May married Elizabeth Ann Henrie December 29, 1876 in

Logan, Cache, Utah. Shortly after the marriage the young couple left Utah and settled in Rockland, Oneida, Idaho. It was in Rockland that James Henrie May, Marvin's grandfather was born February 6, 1881. James Ira was an active and impatient man. He, along with an uncle, went elk hunting in the Jackson Hole Wyoming area in the fall of 1895. He fell in love with the country and organized a party of families from Rockland to move to Jackson Hole in the spring of 1896 where he homesteaded on the property that came to be known as Mormon Row and where Marvin was born and raised.

James Henrie May was just 15 years old when the family moved from Rockland to Jackson Hole. He, and his mother joined James Ira in filing homestead claims on the rich land just east of Blacktail Butte. The family settled in to proving up on the 560 acres of rich ranchland. Young Henrie May built a little one room log cabin in the fall of 1903 in anticipation of his marriage to Hadden Maria Wood, which took place on February 24, 1904. The cabin, which originally was located near the home of James Ira May was moved $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north on Mormon Row and became the home of Henrie and Hadden and the home where Clifton May was born March 10, 1905. The picture shown here is of Veda May, Marvin's aunt, taken about 1916 and is one of the earliest photos of the log cabin built by Henrie May. I show the picture to indicate the primitive construction of the log cabin.



This was the cabin that later became the home to the newly married couple, Clifton Henrie May and Fay Tempest, married September 12, 1923, and the birthplace of J Marvin May on August 9, 1924.

Between the years 1896 and 1924 there had been some improvements in the quality of life on Mormon Row, but by today's standards the improvements were minimal. There was no electricity. There was no running water. The water was pumped from a hand dug well. All of the heat for the home came from wood burning stoves. The wood was harvested from the surrounding forests and hand cut and chopped. The light for the long winter nights was furnished by kerosene lanterns. The family did not own an automobile when Marvin was born. Later a 1929 Model A Ford was purchased which became the mode of transportation for Marvin in his teenage years and which made many unauthorized trips between Mormon Row and Rexburg, Idaho. The family diet consisted of milk and cream from the herd of dairy cattle, mutton from the sheep (beef was too precious as a cash crop), elk harvested from the fields and surrounding hills, eggs from the chicken coop and pork from the hogs that Clifton kept for food and cash. Each fall Clifton and Fay would make a trip to Victor or Rexburg, Idaho and purchase a supply of flour, sugar, salt and other precious cooking commodities for the coming harsh winter. There was no cooking oil; Fay used lard rendered from the slaughtered hogs to cook with. A garden raised in the summer furnished root vegetables that were stored in a root cellar for use during the winter. It was a harsh lifestyle.

That is the environment that Marvin grew up in. The school that he attended was a half mile north of the home and transportation to and from consisted of his two legs. Occasionally he would ride a saddle horse to school and tether it in a barn that was

located proximate to the schoolhouse. His memory of school days, as recorded above in Justine's email, was typical. The days were long in the two room school. As Marvin progressed through the grades he first spent time in the younger room and then moved to the older room. Clifton May was the superintendent of the school and hired the teachers. The May children were expected to be obedient and conscientious students. Due to the closeness of age between Marvin and his brother Glenn, just 18 months, and a year of sickness where Marvin lost a year of school, he spent most of his school years with his brother Glenn. Glenn's memories of Marvin were that he was an excellent student, popular with all and very talented musically.

Much could be written about those early years, however memories have dimmed and the details are scarce. Suffice it to say that they were not easy times. Marvin reminisces of having two pairs of Levi overalls to wear, one for work and one for church. Some of these memories are preserved in audio and video recordings made in 2011 and 2012 and are included in the DVD appended to this book. I invite the reader to take advantage of hearing some of the memories in his own words.

This, as has every family history project that I have engaged in, has been a journey of discovery. I invite the reader to pick up where we have left off and to continue the journey in each of your individual lives.

Vern Tempest May
January 31, 2013

Appendix 1 – Marvin's war through Grandmother Hadden May's Eyes

(Marvin was the first grandson of Hadden May and she considered him as much a son as a grandson, so these diary entries from the book *Hadden Maria Wood May Diaries 1937-1966*, compiled by Vern T. May, give a very personal insight to his war experience.)

August 9, 1942 Sun. Mrs Heningar died about 12:30 A.M & am I blue today. I thought so much of her. Marvin is 18 yrs old today, & I fell & hurt my leg, but won't tell the folks, (it would do no good) Daddie & girls & Craits all in Driggs to Conference today. Pres. McKay & Brother & Bp Worthlin the visitors, & the Bates church was Dedicated in evening.

Fri. May 21, 1943 - Our family & Clifton & Leah all went to Rexburg & attended Arvas, Marvins & Glenns graduation, it was nice but we never got home until 4:00 A.M. (Nice day) Mart not too good.

June 6, 1943 Sun. "Ward Conference" & Marvin was ordained an Elder by his Daddie (under the supervision of the 3 Presidency) & Jack ordained a Deacon by Pres. Lee Fullmer, & Delmar made ward clerk. (Leland pretty bad. Daddie & I to see him in PM.

June 27, 1943 Sun. Fay & Marvin left today for Salt Lake City & Marvins marriage Held SS but no sacrament meeting. Harry Espenhide & Turners called on us also Veda & Melba & children in P.M.

Sat. July 3, 1943 Marvin & bride returned today. they were married the 29th (just three years to day since Bruces drowning) "Shorty" came today for short visit. Daddie & I got him in Town Kids to Town tonight.

16 April 1944 Sun. - I was too miserable to drive to S.S. Murlands here all P.M & until 12:00 midnight. Marvin called up. They lost a pair of twins today (boys), (premature) our 1st chance for twins & that gone, too bad. Cold North wind. (Betty Jean 7 yrs old today).

Sat. May 20, 1944- Marvin & Doris came in, he leaves for Physicals Tue. (I doubt if he passes) Fay took Hans to Town, & got thier own car too. School Picnic. Wayne disked wheat patch in Riniker

Tue. May 22, 1944 - Snow so heavy on roofs it slid off just like winter, has stormed all day & cold as winter too. Marvin & others left for Denver for their physicals today. I ironed curtains until I got sick.

Fri. May 26, 1944- Daddie finished wheat, 26 Acres in R. place, used 16 sacks & 6 or 7 sacks on So piece, drill set at 7 pecks. Marvin returned from Denver & got Army instead of Navy, which he wanted.

Tue June 13, 1944 - Marvin & Doris came in P.M. had been through Yellowstone past 2 days, it is so nice they can enjoy themselves pryor to his induction. Daddie drilled oats on hay piece Rained though as usual. Murland here in P.M.

Mon. June 19, 1944- Sun shining & grand this AM. Having farewell party for Marvin (it about makes me sick, he is so much like our very own Son. Lovely day. (Donald Kent put in as school director today)

Tue. June 20, 1944- Marvin left for induction & how it hurts, but with God's permission he will return & safely. I do so pity the youth of this waring old world. (Lonely)

5 Nov. 1944 Sun.-Marvin arrived home on his 1st furlough, & it an over-seas one, makes me feel sick at heart. Had nice S.S & meeting Stormed all day - sure gloomy too. Wayne sick

Fri. November 17, 1944 -Poor Marvin left us all today & he really felt it too. No telling when he will see home & loved ones again, but if it is Gods will he will retum, his parents & Doris took him to Rock Springs

Fri November 24, 1944.-Fay heard from Marvin, he stood trip back to Md fine, but sure home sick & I can't balame him. Reece Chambers left for Service today. Weather warmed up some.

Wed. November 29, 1944 -Daddie & Carol cleared fields of stray stock today. Had card from

Marvin last Tue. so answered with letter today, & made candy for him tonight. Re-Ordered Dad's shoes. Terrably cold.

Thu. November 30, 1944 -Pa & Carol game below with cattle. Fay recd. word from Marvin that he is leaving for "embarkation" don't know where too, but it sure makes us all blue. Frances Sperl's boy died yesterday (Letter from Lola & baby is sick again. Leland gone to work at Steele plant

Wed. December 13, 1944 -Clifton's folks got home last night & Leona was so sick she landed in the hospital, & not much chance of saving her baby. Fay says Marvin called Doris last Sun. evening, so still in USA thank Heaven. still cold & clear.

Fri. December 15, 1944-Girls held Primary today. Lucile cared for Judy as I am sick with cold. Uncle Mart not so good. Recd. a lot of Xmas cards & letters from Leland & Lucy & Marvin he is still on east coast, or was the 10th.

Mon. December 18, 1944 I sent Lelands Xmas box today so glad to get it on it's way & hope they get it by Xmas. Wrote them & Marvin. Did big washing Clifton put thresher away. Arva skating tonight I ordered Improvemant Era for Marvin today.

Tue. December 19, 1944 -Clifton's heard from Marvin - written the 11th, sounded like he was on his way. (Oh dear) We ironed tonight. Arva & Lesters kids been skating I made an elephant for Allyn. Arva has tree trimmed

Thu. December 27, 1944 -Clifton still getting out wood. No word from Marvin or his picture eather. Cold as ever, was 30 below in Town, but warming up some tonight. Waynes P.B. (bull) calf sick

Wed. January 3, 1945 -Still snowed in & so much cream ready to go to Town. Plow came to Kelly. Mail with snow plain about night again, it turned over on driver. Clear but cold. Veda called up in PM. (No word from Marvin yet.) (Letter from Lola & children, they are well)

Wed. January 10, 1945 -Veda came for while this P.M. so good to see Judy doing well again C.A to Kelly with wood. Fay to Town, roads good. I finished my red-cross sewing. No word from Marvin yet.

Fri. January 12, 1945 -I mailed in more reports today. Arva walked out to Veda's & helped hold Primary. Warmer & windy, roads OK tough tonight. No word from Marvin yet. All war news -good. Glenn & Leona quit job & up to Cliftons

Mon. January 15, 1945 -Men separated cows & calves today Sent off our income tax-(the dead-line) Not so springlike as yesterday. I'm sure miserable today, unable to wash. No word from Marvin

Wed. January 17, 1945 -Did big washing & scrubbed today Nice day but much colder. Boyd got home No word yet from Marvin. I'm getting worried Nice Letter from Elsie. Glen working at Hansens.

Thu. January 18, 1945 -Fay had letter from Marvin today written 19th Dec.-& he was on Ocean "somewhere" So thankfull to hear from him. Lee Johnsons heard from their boy too from Jap prison camp.

Tue. January 23, 1945 -Doris called Fay tonight & said she got a letter from Marvin dated 5th Jan. & the poor kid is in Belgium, they sure rushed him into it, & how I pray he will be protected. Cold. R.S held at Fays Bartha had letter from Reed, written in Nov. 44. Was well then.

Sat. January 27, 1945 -Reed Moulton surprised his folks by calling them from Denver, after being held a hostage in Switzerland over 7 months. (What a thrill) & they never knew he was even in America. Fay heard from Marvin again. Thankfull

Tue. January 30, 1945 -R.S held at my home today, nice lesson too. Shirley Thomas was with Bartha, she acts like a very nice girl too. Cliftons had another letter from Marvin - written the 7th, poor kid in thick of it.

Fri. February 9, 1945 -Arva & Melba walked out to Church to hold Primary. Beautiful day

but plow only came to Kelly, so we are snowed-in again. No more word from Marvin. Some boys re-classified.

Tue. February 20, 1945 -Glenn left on bus this AM for Denver for his induction, sure makes one blue, he had Bennie Goe with him. No word from Marvin yet. Lovely day. Arva & Doris skied to Veda's in PM. Doris & Fay sent Marvin a parcel.

Thu. February 22, 1945 -Thank Heaven we heard from Marvin today, he wrote Doris the 8th Feb. from Germany & was OK then, hope he still. No word from Glenn yet. Betty & Jr skied to Melba today. Moved Mosley cattle from Joes. Bluster & cold. Roads partly opened to Kelly. We are still in.

Mon February 26, 1945 -Arva & Doris rode to Rexburg with McLaughlin & Doris called Fay this P.M. she had 3 letters from Marvin latest the 10th Feb. He was OK & right in front lines & with Gen. Patton's 1st Army-Division. Glenn left Denver today Men shipped hogs-we sent 5. Nice day but cold.

Tue February 27, 1945 -Fay recd. letter from Marvin dated Feb 9th So good to be hearing from him, & Lucile heard from Harley too. (same date) We shipped some canner cows today. Odette's hand doing fine. Still cold.

Wed. February 28, 1945 -Recd. a grand letter from Marvin today, & he bore a strong testimony as to his blessings & answers to prayers, it so thrills me. Also heard from Leland's. Clara sick tonight

Wed. March 7, 1945 -Still cold but moderating. I pieced quilt blocks. Pa never got the hog's cut up yet. Fay had letter from Marvin dated Feb. 20-, was OK then. War going fine for us.

Sat. March 17, 1945 -Fay called Doris last night, but she has had no late word from Marvin, we are getting worried. Glenn called Leona from Texas tonight he is OK. yet. Reece home on furlough. Inez home from Larmie, but sick & Boyd took her to Dr Vanvick (Nasty Blizzard) (Card party at Madisons)

18 March 1945 Sun.- Roads too bad to go to SS. (none held). Men started hauling straw from Chambers. Doris called Fay again last night, still no word from Marvin. Men saw meadow lark.

Mon. March 19, 1945 -Arva sick so we never washed. I finished piecing Lola's quilt. No word today from Marvin. Big party at Harthoorn's, but only rough-necks invited-ha. Cold but clear. Letter from Elsie.

Fri. March 30, 1945 -Lola took us to S.L. & I had my eyes tested. Saw Mrs Curtis & Pearl. Nice day & warm. Nice letter from Arva, all OK Clifton's hearing from Marvin again. Thank Heaven

Wed. April 11, 1945 We did big washing & in a bad storm as usual. Had letters from Veda, Melba & Fay, so the world looks brighter Am so happy to know Marvin is still OK

Wed. April 18, 1945 We did a 4 weeks washing & then scrubbed too, so am terribly tired. Some storm tonight. Plow trying to open roads over Antelope & around Butte. No news from Marvin. (Judy May one year old)

Wed. May 2, 1945 Card from Elsie saying Virgie had a stroke about a month ago, & she just heard from Marvin last Fri. but no word over here yet. Later - Notified "Marvin was wounded the 16th" so we are surely blue. "Italian" Germans surrendered.

Thu. May 3, 1945 No more word from Marvin. Fay to Town with Allyn - he has sore mouth. I am 60 yrs young (?) today. Veda & Judy to dinner with us. I recd. some grand gifts & cards-

Fri. May 4, 1945 Doris recd. letter from Marvin & called Fay. His wound was shrapnel in left arm, but he was doing OK when he wrote the 20th from France We are all so thankful. It could have been so much worse.

Sat. May 5, 1945 We cleaned back porch-mainly-& burned lots of trash. Nice weather. I wrote Leland's a card about Marvin's wounds. Jack still sick Clifton & Wayne worked up Grovont ditch yesterday PM

13 May 1945 Sun. "Mothers Day" & as always I recd. some lovely gifts from my family & we ladies all went to show, "Laura" pretty good. Veda & children & Murlands here to dinner. Rained Fay recd. a "Mothers Day" cable from Marvin.

Tue. June 5, 1945 Storming like dickens again, so all field work stopped. Fay recd. last chicks Had card from Lola, James is better. Marvin wrote the 24th May & was to be operated that week was still in Eng. The 1st army arrived in N.Y. the 3rd

Fri. June 8, 1945 Doris notified by Adj. Generail that Marvin set-sail for home the 28th, so we are all mighty happy over that. Men on Butte for more posts. We finished cleaning b-room & up stairs. Still stormy, but not so bad.

Sat. June 9, 1945 Doris called Fay & she had just talked to Marvin, he landed in Boston yesterday, but will go to some hospital for operation (never had it in Eng.) May get home first though. (We hope) Men drilling on R. place this PM. Fay to Town. We finished house-cleaning.

Tue. June 12, 1945 Finished our drilling & kids put in garden & potatoes. Fay & Melba also planted gardens Lester broak drill part. Marvin wired folks, is on way to Walla Walla, Was. to enter hospital for operation (Leighs 4th birthday, too bad he had to leave us)

Sat. June 16, 1945 Wayne harrowed oat patch in R. place. I cleaned back porch, Arva cleaned house. Sun shone but not much heat. Marvin in Walla Walla & going to have operation before he can come home, he has us all worried. (more frost, hurt all tender things

Mon. June 18, 1945 Fay started for Walla Walla this A.M. to visit Marvin & be with him through his opertion. Doris went too, I'm so glad for them Arva helped Inez wash. Clifton re-elected as school director for three years. Beautiful day.

Wed. June 20, 1945 One year today since Marvin went into the service, he has gone through a lot too. Men started cows to range, so we are all upset. Mr Light called. Inez here in PM. Nice letter from Lola, also Arva heard from Billy & Doris.

Sat. June 23, 1945 Pa & Lanny rode down from camp. Quite a nice rain in P.M. Fay wrote that Marvin "looks fine" but has a "badly crippled arm", but it could have been much worse.

Mon. June 25, 1945 Warren left today, no telling when he will be back again, as he goes to France, (too bad) Fay returned this P. M & is very encouraged over Marvin & I'm so glad. Card from Lola, they are O.K. Cool.

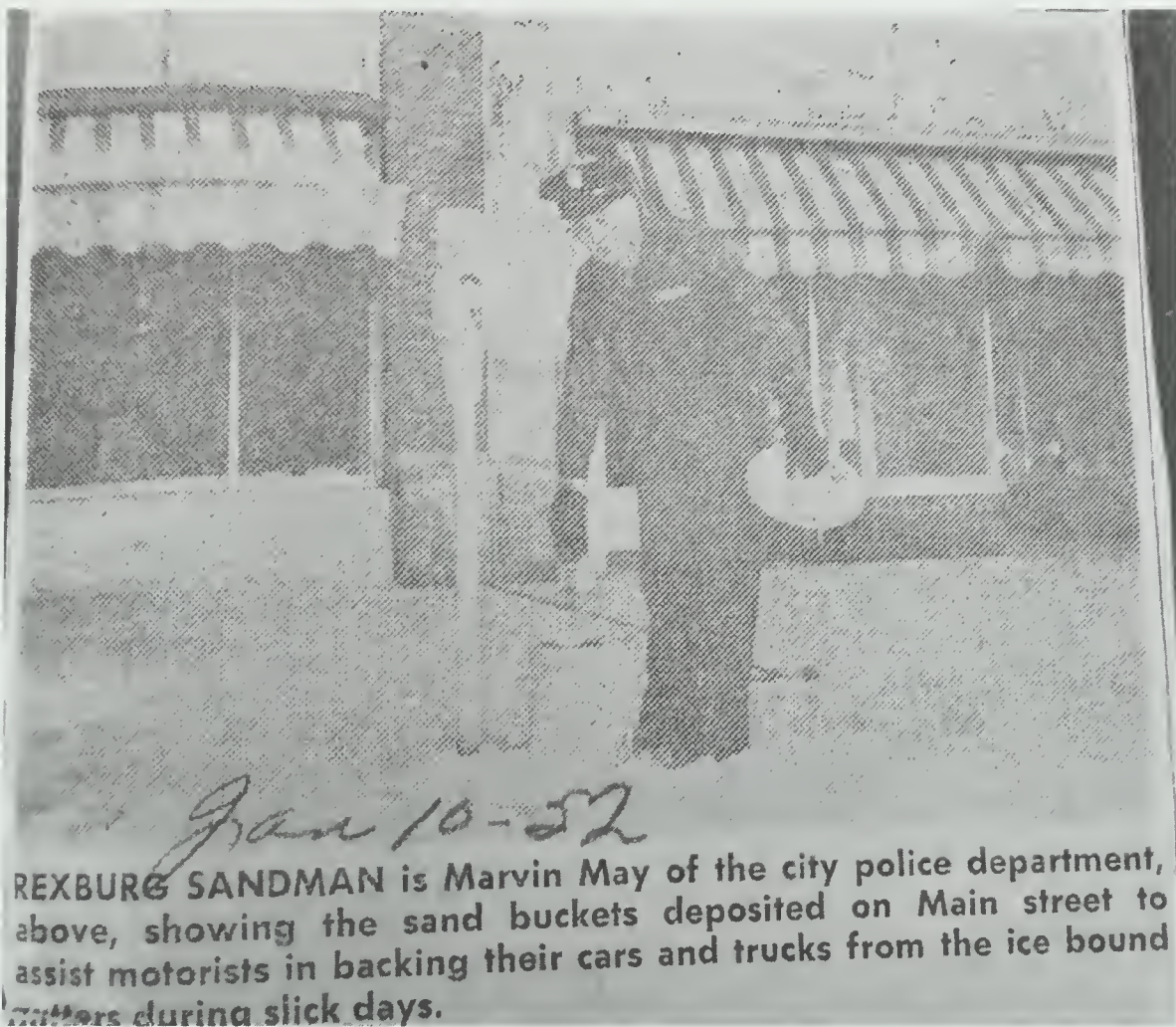
Fri. June 29, 1945 Pa gathered cows from Buffe & Ralph & him are going to cow-camp with bulls tomorrow. Ralph here tonight. Better weather but cold. (Later) (Marvin operated in Washington

Sat. July 14, 1945 I canned 14 pts gooseberries. Pd \$2.50 box. Made raised doughnuts. Had letter & cards from Leland's, & he is better, also heard from Marvin & he is doing fine

Mon. July 16, 1945 We all went to air port & saw a B17-F, it was quite a sight. Did big washing Marvin & Doris in Rexburg, he is on 90 day furlough Glenn one of 12 held in Tex. for special assignment

Thu. July 19, 1945 We all spent day at LeeWs camp & surely enjoyed everything but the mosquitos Marvin & others came down tonight & boy is it good to see him & feel his good spirit. I'm so thankfull he was spared as well as he is.

Appendix 2 - Miscellaneous Newspaper Clippings from the Rexburg, Idaho era of Marvin May's Life.



Jan 10-52
REXBURG SANDMAN is Marvin May of the city police department, above, showing the sand buckets deposited on Main street to assist motorists in backing their cars and trucks from the ice bound gutters during slick days.

Rexburg Policemen Attend Special Training Schools *Ver 87 5 19*

Rexburg Police Chief J. Marvin May, and Policemen Vance Ricks, Bob Beebe and Mart Nelson, attended a special law enforcement school at Pocatello October 19 and 20. The school, held in the evenings, was conducted by Inspector George O. Parker, Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Officers Ricks and Beebe, along with one other officer from another city, were selected to participate in a contest of "shaking down" a prisoner loaded with contraband. Beebe took first prize, with Ricks coming in second. Inspector Parker stated that out of all the contests of this nature he had conducted—more than 50 of them—Beebe had scored higher than any other man who ever took the test.

A demonstration of judo techniques climaxed the meetings. The local police officers said that they gained a great deal from the school, and their increased know-

8/18/55 DOING GOOD WORK

Motorists here ~~are learning~~ (a few of them a little late, perhaps) that Rexburg's new police force is doing a really bang-up job of enforcing traffic regulations. Officers J. Marvin May, Bob Beebe, Bart Nelson and Vance Ricks are seeing that Rexburg has 24-hour police protection—and erring motorists are called on the carpet! To date the officers have issued a lot of traffic tickets and they'll keep doing it as long as violations continue. They say, however, that they hope motorists will cooperate and obey traffic laws so that the number of tickets will subside. We are mentioning this "crack-down" on errant drivers for two reasons: One is to give warning to everyone that if they don't pay any attention to traffic laws and regulations they'll be paying a fine instead; Reason Two is because I think the officers are doing a fine job (even if I get a ticket for something I do wrong sometime) and I'm all for them. I think, too, that most residents are proud of the police force, and will cooperate with them in their effort to provide the best law enforcement possible here.

* * * * *
and their impartial law enforcement throughout the years.

Police to Keep Eyes on Meters *3-4-57*

The Rexburg police department announced this week that it is "cracking down" on parking meter violations.

Officer J. Marvin May said that the police have been quite lenient about overparking on Main Street and other streets with meters during the winter since a number of the meters were not working properly because of the cold weather.

Meters are being put in good working order again, he said, and tickets will be given for parking meter violations.

The Rexburg

VOLUME 67 — NUMBER 37

9-15-55

REXBURG, MADISON COUNTY, IDAHO,



REXBURG POLICE OFFICERS, who have been giving residents 24-hour police protection, include, left to right, Vance Ricks, Mart Nelson, ~~Arthur~~ Chief J. Marvin May, and Bob Beebe. Officers are asking cooperation of residents to decrease traffic violations here.

Rexburg Motorists Urged to Help In Observance of S-D Day Thursday

Although safe driving is a year-round responsibility of motorists, they should make a particular effort now to get their cars in shape for the observance of Safe Driving Day, proclaimed by President Eisenhower for this Thursday, December 1, Chief of Police J. Marvin May said yesterday.

The announced purpose of "S-D Day," as it is called, is the effort, by extra care, to avoid all serious accidents on that day, just to show it can be done.

"This fall weather lulls lots of people into a sense of false security," Chief May observed. "They think it will last forever. But it never has. And it won't. All motorists know that, yet every year the first snow finds thousands of them unprepared. A storm might even occur on S-D Day."

Even disregarding the safety involved, it's lots easier to have brakes, headlights, and other mechanical features of the car checked now before the first cold weather rush, Chief May pointed out. But getting ready for winter, he added, means more than just

changing the oil and grease and putting in anti-freeze.

"It's just as important to check safety factors of vision and traction," he said. "Live rubber windshield wiper blades that don't streak, defrosters in working order, and good headlights are all vital for adequate vision in winter rains, fogs, smogs, sleet and snow."

"And for safer traction on ice and snow, there's nothing like a good pair of tire chains—on the wheels, not in the trunk. National Safety Council tests proved that. And I mean full chains, not those emergency units you snap on for temporary help."

This applies, he said, whether or not you have the mud-snow tires on your car. Such tires, he emphasized, cannot be depended upon to do the work of full tire chains of the reinforced type on hard-packed snow or ice, although the better winter tires are helpful in loose snow and sleet.

"Let's not 'skid' ourselves about these matters that can involve serious accidents and traffic delays," the Chief advised.

11-30-55

Police Report Shows Sixty-two Accidents In Last Six Months

4-11-56

Rexburg Police officer Vance Ricks in a recent city council meeting, submitted a report showing accidents that happened within the city limits between October 2, 1955 and April 1, 1956.

Total accidents in that six month period was 62 with 124 cars involved. The officers estimated damage totaled \$9,914.

Obvious violations causing accidents as taken from accident reports are as follows: speed, 8; negligent driving, 21; hit and run 2; stop sign, 6; drunken driving, 1; following too close, 2; failure to yield right of way, 10; improper U turn, 4; and failure to signal a turn, 9.

A report on when the accidents occurred showed only two between the hours of 12 midnight and 7 a.m.; 13 from 7 a.m. until 12 noon; 31 from 12 noon until 8 p.m., and 15 from 8 p.m. to 12 midnight.

Five persons were injured in the six month period, two seriously.

Convictions of offences in the city police court was 211 moving violations; convictions of drunken drivers, 3; and convictions in Probate and Justice of the Peace court, 2.

Accidents investigated by the Idaho State Police within the city limits, three, involving five cars.

Accidents investigated by sheriff's office within city limits—auto and train, two; six accidents, 12 cars involved. One was injured seriously and one slightly.

Actually, this report only includes accidents totalling over \$50 in damages. Many other accidents happen during the year but are not included in the overall report.

Rexburg Police Attend School

(Special to The Post-Register)

REXBURG, Oct. 24 — Rexburg city police attended the two night special law school at Pocatello, directed by George O. Parker, from the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Bob Bybee, Rexburg, won first prize in a contest which was between the officers.

May said that the school was informative and helpful.

Attending from Rexburg, besides Chief of Police May, were Vance Ricks and Mart Nelson.

Civil Air Patrol Unit Formed Here This Week

A Civil Air Patrol unit was organized for Rexburg this week, and a temporary slate of officers has been elected to head the group.

Elected as commanding officer was Wendell Adamson. Other officers are John Weimer, executive officer; Arliss Willmore, secretary; J. Marvin May, public relation officer; Merrill Andrus, communications officer; and Norman Brown, chaplain.

The Rexburg C.A.P. unit was formed at a meeting here last Sunday. Present at that session were Mr. Adamson, Mr. Willmore, Mr. May, Mr. Andrus, Mr. Brown, Robert S. Pratt, Lee Christensen, Robert T. Morris, Linden Merrill, James Edison, Harlo Willmore, William Fowler, Jr., Marion Tillery, Dorian Christensen, Boyd Brown and Gordon Holley.

Another meeting will be held in Idaho Falls this Thursday night, Feb. 24. Several new members will be taken into the organization, and all persons interested in joining are invited to meet with the group at Emery's Sandwich Shop in Rexburg at 6:40 p.m. The group will then travel to Idaho Falls for the meeting. It is planned to hold all future meetings at the Rexburg airport.

Officers said that one does not have to be a pilot to join the C.A.P.

Powell Filling In On Police Force

Sandy Powell is temporarily serving as a Rexburg policeman, J. Marvin May, police chief, said this week. He has agreed to help out on the force until a regular replacement can be found for the late Mart Nelson, patrolman who died recently.

12-9-55

Policemen Praise Residents For Cooperation Here

Rexburg Police Chief J. Marvin May said this week that the police department wants to thank local residents for helping to curb traffic violations in the city, and for the fine cooperation which officers have received from the public as a whole.

Several arrests have necessarily been made, Chief May said, and several warnings issued, and, in most cases, offenders have taken the citations "very courteously."

The police warned, however, that failure to report to police court when traffic violation tickets are issued will result in issuance of warrants for arrest for the violators.

Chief May also cautioned motorists that it is illegal to throw bottles and other refuse from cars. Such offenders will be arrested when caught, he said.

Oct 5 - 1955

SCHOOL PATRONS THANK REXBURG POLICE OFFICER

Teachers and pupils of the Adams grade school this week expressed their thanks and appreciation to J. Marvin May, Rexburg police officer, for his "faithful appearance each noon to help the children board the school bus."

Every day since the beginning of this school year, the group stated, Officer May has been "on the job" at noon, enforcing traffic regulations on the school corner and seeing that no harm has come to any of the children.

"There is no way of knowing how many accidents he has prevented," the teacher and pupil group said, "and we want to express our thanks to Officer May. We hope he will continue the good work."

4-18-56

City Police Attend Instruction School

Members of the Rexburg Police department attended an auto theft detecting school in Pocatello last week.

The meeting was an all day activity conducted Thursday featuring representatives from the F.B.I. and from the Salt Lake auto theft department.

The school concerned apprehension and detection of stolen auto-

mobiles. It was very imformative and valuable, according to the Rexburg Chief J. Marvin May.

Other officers attending the meet from Rexburg were Vance Ricks and Bob Bebee.

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changing the oil and grease and putting in anti-freeze.

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11-30-55

Police Solve Year Old Burglary 3-28-56

Rexburg police solved the burglary of the Western Auto store that happened last spring. Chief J. Marvin May announced this week.

The burglary that involved breaking in through the roof of the building and stealing some money from the basement was solved and disposed of, May said. The crime involved a youth.

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REXBURG, MADISON COUNTY, IDAHO, T

7-18-56



A.E.C. MEDICAL OFFICER addresses Civil Defense leaders. Dr. Louis S. Gorber, third from right facing the camera, chief of the Medical Branch of the Health and Safety Division of A.E.C. chats with Madison County Civil Defense leaders. On Gerber's left are Dr. A. C. Truxal, director of the Welfare Division and Gilbert T. McKinlay, director of the Administrative Division. To Gerber's right reading counter-clockwise are: Sheriff E. A. Hansen, director, Security Division, Rexburg Police Chief Marvin May, Deputy Ford Smith, Fire Chief Silas Clements, CAP head Gordon Holley, Dr. M. F. Rigby, Chief of the Health Section, Ralph Weatherston commander of the National Guard Unit, Irvin Widdison, chief of the Personnel Section, and Jack Hegsted, disaster chairman of the local American Red Cross.

12-14-55

Get Your Car Prepared for Winter Driving Conditions, Police Chief Says

"Most people make up their Christmas lists about this time of year, and then put off their shopping to the week before Christmas," Police Chief J. Marvin May observed yesterday.

"Unfortunately, it's the same way with many motorists, and they run a lot more risk than tardy Christmas shoppers."

The time to make your car safe is before weather conditions find you unprepared and lead to accidents, Chief May warned.

He offered the following rules, prepared by the National Safety Council, as a recipe for longevity;

1. Don't blame the weatherman for accidents. Be prepared.

2. Get the feel of the road when starting out on slippery mornings.

3. Whether you use regular tires or snow tires, use reinforced tire chains on packed snow or ice. They cut stopping distance about one-half, and give 4 to 7 times more traction than regular tires, regardless of temperature.

4. Keep the windshield clear of sleet, fog and frost. And be sure the windshield wiper blades, de-

frosters, and all lights are in good condition.

5. When you stop on ice, don't jam on your brakes. That is inviting a skid. "Pump" the brakes until the car stops.

6. Keep a safe distance between your car and the one ahead. You'll have a hard time explaining why you couldn't stop, if the car ahead was able to.

National Safety Council tests show, Chief May said, that a car equipped with reinforced tire chains, traveling 20 miles an hour, can stop in about 77 feet on glare ice, and in 38 feet on hard packed snow.

The same car, with snow tires, takes more than 170 feet to stop on glare ice, and from 52 to 60 some feet to stop on hard packed snow, although some tires give somewhat better traction in loose snow or slush than regular tires.

"The National Safety Council has tried to end the confusion caused by exuberant and misleading claims by testing over 30 types of special winter tire treads last January," the Chief declared. "The

Police Dept. Warns . . .

School Zone Cautions Must Be Observed!

8-30-56

Police Chief J. Marvin May reminded motorists today that school zone cautions are again in effect now that school has started and should be heeded by drivers.

The traffic lights near the Adams school and Junior high school building have been functioning since Monday, the first day of school, but many motorists have found it hard to adjust to the change and violated traffic laws.

Chief May said that a number of tickets have already been written and that the law will continue to be strictly enforced. Some children have nearly been hit by drivers neglecting to follow the rules.

Signs are posted warning motorists of the school zones and drivers who may stop for the lights but still drive carelessly in the school zones will be stopped and given tickets, according to the Police Department.

Driver's License Required To Operate Motor Bike 5-2-56

All persons driving motor vehicles including motor bikes must have a license for the vehicle and a driver's license, reminded Police Chief J. Marvin May today.

This means that persons under 14 years of age are breaking the law and can be picked up for driving without a license and taken into court and fined as well as the parents for permitting the youngster to own a bike without a license, according to Chief May.

"We urge the cooperation of all the parents in carrying this out," said the chief.

Motorists Advised To Heed Traffic Rules 4-25-56

The Rexburg Police department issued a reminder to local motorists this week to follow the rules of safe driving.

Many motorists are neglecting to heed some of the traffic rules such as signaling when turning a corner or pulling into another lane. "All new cars are equipped with turn indicators," pointed out Chief J. Marvin May, "but people are failing to use them."

Drivers are encouraged, by the Police department, to heed all traffic signs. "Stop signs don't mean just to slow down and shift into second," emphasized the Chief, "But stop completely and proceed with caution." He also encouraged drivers to pay more attention to speed limit signs.

T

VOLUME 66 NUMBER 20

Two Caught After Hair Raising Automobile Chase

Two men were caught after a hair raising automobile chase in Rexburg last night. The chase began when a patrolman saw a car speeding down the main highway. He followed it for several blocks before it turned onto a side street. The patrolman then saw the car stop and get out of the vehicle. He ran toward them and caught them. The men were taken to the police station and are now being held.

Yield Right-of-Way Signs Explained By Police Chief May

Police Chief J. Marvin May reports that inquiries have been made about the "Yield Right-of-Way signs" on First East and First South yielding right-of-way to east and west traffic, and on First East and Second South (by the Fourth-Sixth Ward church) also yielding right of way to east-west traffic. "For the benefit of those who do not understand what these signs mean," commented the Chief, "They are for the purpose of taking 'guess work' out of who has the right of way at intersections. "If you see one of these signs on the street you are traveling on, it means for you to approach and go through with extreme caution. It means that you give all traffic traveling at right angle from you the right of way even to the point of coming to a complete stop on your part. "It may be also explained as a 'rolling stop sign' which means that you do not have to come to a stop. If you see that every thing is clear." More of these signs will be placed at other intersections in the near future, he announced.

4-18-56

City Police Attend Instruction School

Members of the Rexburg Police department attended an auto theft detecting school in Pocatello last week. The meeting was an all day activity conducted Thursday featuring representatives from the F.B.I. and from the Salt Lake auto theft department. The school concerned apprehension and detection of stolen auto-

mobiles. It was very imformative and valuable, according to the Rexburg Chief J. Marvin May. Other officers attending the meet from Rexburg were Vance Ricks and Bob Bebee.

Idaho Falls Man Gets \$100 Fine

(Special to The Post-Register) REXBURG, Jan. 12 — Vance Ricks, Rexburg police officer, and Chief of Police Marvin May arrested Manuel M. Denning, Idaho Falls, Tuesday night in Rexburg on the charge of drunken driving. He was brought before Mary Smith, justice of the peace, and pleaded not guilty. Bond was set at \$200, and he spent the night in jail. Wednesday morning he pleaded guilty and was fined \$100 and court costs. His driver's license was revoked for one year.

City Police Attend Officer School

Rexburg Police officers attended a traffic school conducted in Idaho Falls this week by the Idaho State Police department. Chief J. Marvin May, officers Vance Ricks and Bob Beebe went to an auto theft school in Pocatello conducted by the FBI last Thursday.

Taking part in the Tuesday and Wednesday school were a number of state patrolmen including Rexburg's Ben Newman who talked on appearance and use of photographs in connection with police work. Supt. A. E. Perkins of the Idaho State police and Lt. Erwin T. Dunn, head of this district, were also principle speakers at the two day school.

Most of the information presented centered around traffic problems. Officers Bob Beebe, Gene Jenkins and Chief May attended the meeting.

The meeting Thursday concerned the apprehension of auto thieves and ways and means of detecting. It was only a one day school. During the officer's absence Tuesday and Wednesday, Judge Clark and William Muir were on duty.

2-29-56

Use Walks, Stop At Stop Signs Warns Rexburg Police Chief

Rexburg Police Chief J. Marvin May issued a warning today against using streets for sidewalks and "jay walking." Said Chief May, "Motorists are complaining of 'nearly hitting someone' because of people walking in the street, especially school children, and we want to avoid any unnecessary accident. "Also we ask that everybody obey all traffic lights and refrain from 'jay walking'. Use the proper cross walks and remember the life you save may be your own." He warned that continued violations will be prosecuted according to the law. He concluded, "Please remember that these laws and ordinances were made up for everybody's benefit and it is to your benefit and interests to obey them." There has been a tendency while roads have been icy for people to be lax in coming to a complete stop at stop signs, May stated, and warned Rexburg drivers that "all stop sign violators will be picked up."



MADISON COUNTY CIVIL DEFENSE LEADERS map plans for local participation in "Operation Alert", nation-wide CD exercises commencing July 20. Seated (left to right) Carl H. Jacob, deputy director of Civil Defense for Madison County; C. A. "Sandy" Powell, director, Public Works Division; Sheriff E. A. Hansen, director of the Security Division; Police Chief Marvin May, and Sheriff's Deputy, Ford Smith. Standing rear (left to right) County Clerk Gilbert T. McKinlay, director, Administrative Division; Dr. A. C. Truxal, Welfare Division Director; and Silas Clements, Rexburg City Fire Chief. Absent when picture was taken was Jack Hegsted, disaster chairman for the local chapter of the American Red C

1-13-56

Page 2

Youths Admit Area Robbery

(Special to The Post-Register)

REXBURG, Jan. 13 — Apprehension by city police Thursday of three Rexburg youths apparently cleared up the December burglary of the Rainbow Sports Shop, Marvin May, chief of police said.

May said the arrest of three juveniles also cleared up a November, 1954, break-in of the same business place.

The three youths were taken by city officers Thursday afternoon and all three admitted entering the establishment and stealing several pistols and revolvers, May said. Five of the guns were recovered by officers after the youths made their statements. Two guns were returned earlier under anonymous circumstances. May said two pistols have yet to be recovered.

In the November, 1954, robbery pistols were also taken, ~~but none of these weapons have been recovered.~~

The five guns recovered Thursday were found by officers, buried at a location indicated in the youths statements. May did not reveal the location of the stolen weapons hiding place.

May indicated the youths would be given a hearing, but did not say where or when it would be. He did say it would be a closed hearing as provided by Idaho's Youth Rehabilitation Act.

Owner of the shop from which the guns were taken, D. D. Wilding, did not make an estimate of the value of the stolen guns, but is to complete an inventory shortly.

Hits Parked Car

Gerald Bettger ran into a parked 1947 Ford that was owned by Vernon Williams, Monday at 10:55 p.m. on East 1st North.

Bettger was driving a 1951 Ford. The investigation was made by Chief of Police Marvin May, Gene Jenkins, and Vance Ricks. They estimated the damages at \$400 to both cars. 10-17-56

PUBLIC WARNING!

Anyone pulling machinery or anything with cleated wheels over the oiled streets of Rexburg, will be arrested and brought before the Rexburg City Judge.

This includes dragging trees or other objects over the new city streets, that will dig-up, mar or in anyway mar the surface of the streets, as provided in City Ordinance No. 282.

Signed,

J. MARVIN MAY

Chief of Police.

Last evening, just as we were about to put the paper to bed, I heard the siren and a car speed past the office. I went out to investigate and saw the state police car in hot pursuit of a grey-green sedan.

It meant another hour or two of work for everyone but we stayed on the job until we had the story of the "great car chase" which is printed in this issue.

We watched the chase, helped hunt for the men after they abandoned their car and got the story and wrote it after they had been found. That's the kind of service we try to give our readers every issue. It was also quite a thrill to see the officers in action. Believe me, they did a good job and should be commended.

* * * *

Ol' Baldy Says—

The more arguments you win the fewer friends you'll have.

May 17 1956



Police Report ²⁰ Activities For January ²⁷

Chief of Police Marvin May reports that during the month of January the Rexburg Police force made 56 traffic arrests including speeding and other traffic violations.

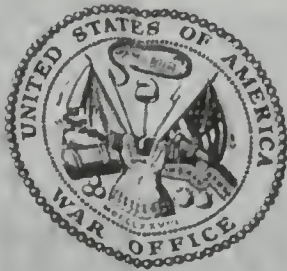
The officers made 23 civil and criminal arrests which includes drunks, contributing to the delinquency of minors, and others. Thirty-eight registered complaints were written and disposed of. They recorded 158 warnings, most of which were traffic.

During the month 22 accidents were investigated which totaled approximately \$3055 property damage. These included 12 major accidents with \$50 or more damage. The total approximate damage was \$1353. The total damage of ten minor accidents, damages of \$50

Marvin May Family Returns From Visit

Mr. and Mrs. J. Marvin May returned recently from a two weeks vacation that covered the west coast from Seattle to Tijuana, Mexico. During the two weeks trip they visited friends in Walla Walla, Washington, relatives in Los Angeles, and returned home via Las Vegas, Nevada.

Department of the Army



Certificate of Training

This is to certify that

J. M. MAY

has successfully completed

Explosive Ordnance Reconnaissance Course

Given at

Rexburg, Idaho 23-24 October 1958

Thomas E. Sample
THOMAS E. SAMPLE
1st Lt Ord C



THIS PANEL will discuss, "Laws Our Children Should Know" at the Parent-Teacher meeting Thursday to be held in the county court room. It will be a joint meeting for all P-TA groups of the Rexburg school district. Program chairman is Mrs. Eugene Peterson. Panel members, left to right: State Patrolman Ben

Newman, School Principal Mark Anderson, Chief of Police Marvin May, Fire Chief Silas Clements and Probate Judge Vernon Mortensen. Another panel member, Warren Porter, is not pictured. Oliver Parsons of Ricks College will be moderator.

—Staff photo

3-18-59

Appendix 3 - Miscellaneous Photos of Marvin May





Marvin with Fay May, his mother



Glenn, Leona, Doris, Marvin May



Carol and Craig with Ryder



Marvin with Ryder



Doris, Craig and Marvin with Ryder



*Glenn and Marvin
High School Years*



Allyn, Vern, Jack, Glenn and Marvin with Clifton May
circa 1952, Mormon Row



Marvin and Glenn, circa 1927



Doris, 1943 and 1971



Marvin and Mary Jane



Marvin and Glenn May



Marvin, Glenn and Jack



Marvin and Patricia Jo, 1973

**Appendix 4 - Service Record of J. Marvin May, kept by Doris May,
June 20, 1944 to April 18, 1946**





HIS NICKNAME Buck
 DATE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE June 21, 1944
 AGE Nineteen WEIGHT 200
 HEIGHT 5' 11"

Reported for Service

AT Jackson Wyoming

ON June 21 1944

BRANCH OF SERVICE U.S. Army -

CORPS NUMBER _____

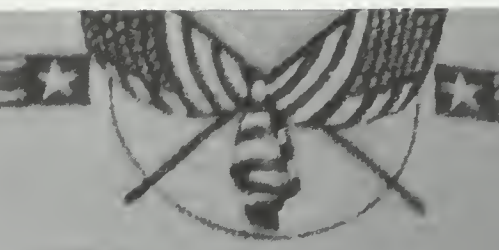
DIVISION NUMBER First Army 9th Division

NAME OF DIVISION 2nd Inf Div 2nd Read Division

REGIMENT 5th

UNIT _____

ATTACHED TO _____



Transferred

TO Fort Logan Colorado

ON June 21 1944

TO Fort McJ. Glenner Alabama

ON June 30 1944

TO Fort Mead Maryland

ON November 20 1944

TO Averseas

ON _____ 19____

Rank Private

PROMOTED TO P. F. C. ON March 17 1945

PROMOTED TO _____ ON _____ 19____

PROMOTED TO _____ ON _____ 19____

PROMOTED TO _____ ON _____ 19____

PROMOTED TO _____ ON _____ 19____

Citations and Decorations

Three Major battles -
 Good behavior -
 Purple Heart -
 Ardennes, Central Europe, Rhineland

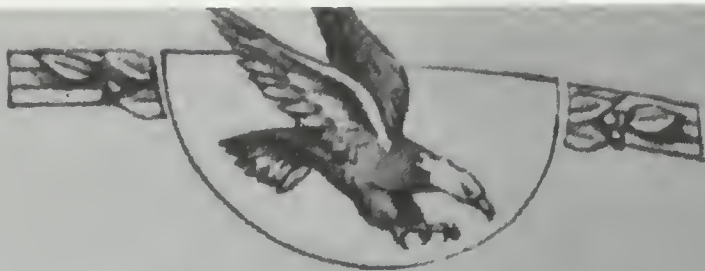
Visited Him

AT Fort My Allien Alabama ON July 25 1944.
 Returned
 = Until October 10, ON 1944.

AT My Law General Hospital. ON June 18 1945 -
 = Returned ON July 16 1945

AT _____ ON _____ 19____

AT _____ ON _____ 19____



He Came Home on Furlough

FROM H. May Ellis Alabama TO Replung.
 NOTES H. Mead Maryland.

FROM Over seas TO Replung Idaho.
 NOTES Report back - McCaw Hospital Oct.
13, 1945. Then 90 day furlough &
Reported back to -

FROM Madigan Gen Hosp. TO
 NOTES for more medical care on
his hand. To Bushnell General
Hospital.

HIS COMMENTS ON LIFE IN THE SERVICE

"I'd rather be home working in
 the creamery."

"Pretty rough"

He Went Overseas on December 13, 1944

NAME OF SHIP *U.S.S. Manhattan. Thakefield.*

LENGTH OF VOYAGE *Eight days.*

NOTES *Not sick.*

Overseas Areas Located in

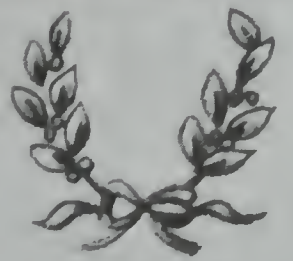
COUNTRY	FROM	TO
<i>England, France,</i>		
<i>Belgium, Germany</i>		

NOTES





Battles and Campaigns



PARTICIPATED IN

"Siegfried line. Crossed the Rhine River at the right of Cologne. Went through Limburg, Kassell, Hollenagon and 40 Million other towns. I can't remember the names of."

Founded April 6, 1945. at Leipzig Germany -



Places He Visited

DATE June PLACE Alabama - Chicago
 HIS COMMENTS "I know that"

Kansas City.

DATE November 26, 44 PLACE Washington D.C.

HIS COMMENTS "a big place. quite a
 nice clean town"

DATE November 1944 PLACE Baltimore Maryland

HIS COMMENTS I didn't think much of it.

It consists of fast women & berlesque Clubs

DATE December PLACE England

HIS COMMENTS Censored.

DATE December PLACE France

HIS COMMENTS Censored.

DATE December PLACE Belgium "Cute pugie"

HIS COMMENTS women"

SECTION

NAME-A.S. No.

MAY, M.

37 365 017

KN

Pfc

ORGANIZATION

Inf.

RECEIVED

HOUR

DAY

MONTH

YEAR

NAME OR No. OF HOSPITAL AND LOCATION

SECTION "B"

NAME-A.S. No.

MAY, Marvin J

37 365 017

GRADE

Pfc

ORGANIZATION

LITTER ☐

AMBULANT

☒

Inf.

DIAGNOSIS

BATTLE CASUALTY

YES

☒

NO

☐

DEBARKATION

HOUR

DAY

MONTH

YEAR

*This was tied on Marvin
coming across - on his way
Home -*

9 December 1944		COMMISSARY SALES CARD	
SALES STORE McCaw General Hospital, Walla Walla, Washington			
NUMBER OF RATION BOOKS	ACCOUNT NUMBER 2442	DATE ISSUED 11 July 1945	
ISSUED TO, OR TO DEPENDENT OF (Name, rank or grade, & organization) MARWIN MAY, Pfc			
THE PERSON NAMED IMMEDIATELY BELOW IS ENTITLED TO MAKE PURCHASES AT SALES STORE, SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS ON REVERSE			
Pfc MARWIN MAY & DORIS MAY (WIFE)			
SIGNATURE OF HOLDER OF SALES CARD <i>[Signature]</i>			
SIGNATURE OF SALES OFFICER JACK LERNER, 1st Lt, MC			



CERTIFICATE

INFANTRY · REPLACEMENT
TRAINING · CENTER
FORT McCLELLAN · ALA.



his Certificate
is awarded to...

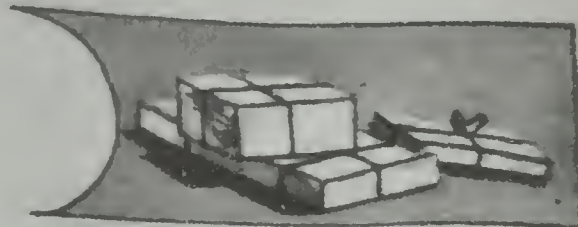
Pvt. May, J M
ASN 37365017

this 28th day of October 19 44 by
the Commanding General of the
· Infantry · Replacement · Training ·
Center · · · · in recognition of his
having successfully completed the
United States Army Basic Training
Cycle.

Sergeant
Company Commander



Gift Record



DATE

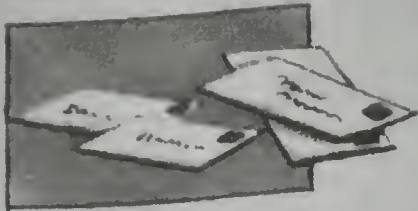
GIFT SENT TO HIM

July 12, 1944	a fried checker
July 13, 1944	a service kit + sewing kit
Nov. 1944	Cake.
Nov. 1944	Box of fudge candy.
December 1944	Christmas Box.
February 1945	candy, nuts, soap, etc.
March 2, 1945	candy, Lunc. Cake.

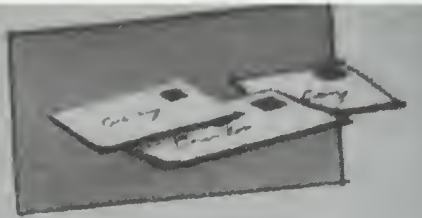
McCAW
GENERAL HOSPITAL



WALLA WALLA
WASHINGTON



Correspondence Record



RECEIVED MAIL FROM HIM	WROTE TO HIM
<p>Received Card from Lock Springs June 21, 1944.</p> <p>PFC Marvin May, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifton May, is at home on a 90-day convalescing furlough. Marvin, who has been at McCall General Hospital in Walla Walla, Washington, was wounded in the arm when fighting near Leipszig, Germany, last April. He wears three combat stars on his ETO ribbon, having participated in the battles of the Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe. Happy to be home, Marvin exclaimed, "a person doesn't realize what a wonderful country this is until they leave it." An infantryman, May was in the 2nd Division of the 1st Army. Pvt. Glenn May is at home to visit his brother Marvin. Glenn will spend ten days before going to his new station at Camp Adair, Oregon. He has been at Camp Hood Texas since his induction last February.</p>	<p>June 22, 1944</p> <p>June 26, 1944</p> <p>June 29, 1944</p> <p>Port Logan.</p> <p>Call from 2nd Division June 3, 1944.</p> <p>Glenn Alaba.</p> <p>2, 1944</p> <p>3, 1944</p> <p>5, 1944</p> <p>7, 1944</p> <p>July 8, 1944.</p> <p>July 10, 1944</p> <p>July 11, 1944</p> <p>July 12, 1944</p> <p>July 13, 1944</p> <p>July 14, 1944</p> <p>3 Today July 17, 1944</p> <p>July 18, 1944</p> <p>2 Today July 19, 1944</p> <p>also Pillow July 20, 1944</p> <p>July 21, 1944</p> <p>July 22, 1944</p>
	<p>July 4, 1944</p> <p>July 5, 1944</p> <p>July 6, 1944</p> <p>July 7, 1944-</p> <p>July 8, 1944</p> <p>July 9, 1944</p> <p>July 10, 1944.</p> <p>July 11, 1944.</p> <p>July 12, 1944</p> <p>July 13, 1944</p> <p>July 14, 1944.</p> <p>July 15, 1944</p> <p>July 16, 1944</p> <p>July 17, 1944.</p> <p>July 18, 1944.</p> <p>July 19, 1944.</p> <p>July 20, 1944</p> <p>July 21, 1944</p> <p>July 22, 1944.</p>

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NOTICE OF CLASSIFICATION

App. not Req.

J. Marvin May
(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)

No. 10,222 has been classified in Class I-A

(Until _____, 19____)
(Insert date for Class II-A and II-B only)

Local Board.

Board of Appeal (by vote of _____ to _____).
 President.

April 14, 1943 Lester R. Ridd
(Date of mailing) (Member of local board)

as requires you, subject to heavy penalty for violation, to have
 in addition to your Registration Certificate (Form 2), in
 your possession at all times—to exhibit it upon request to an
 official—to surrender it, upon entering the armed forces, to
 commanding officer.

Form 57. (Rev. 11-16-42)

(Check and mark the last)

J. Marvin May

REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that in accordance with the
 Selective Service Proclamation of the President of the United States

J. (initial only) Marvin May
(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)

Grovont, Teton, Wyoming
(Place of residence)

(This will be identical with line 2 of the Registration Card)

has been duly registered this 16 day of December, 1943

Mary A. M^s Garry
(Signature of registrar)

Registrar for Local Board

1(Number)Rexburg, Idaho(City or residence)(State)

THE LAW REQUIRES YOU TO HAVE THIS CARD IN YOUR
 PERSONAL POSSESSION AT ALL TIMES

D. H. S. Form 2
 (Revised 6/9/41)

16-43821

J. Marvin May
 1943
 (Check and mark the last)

DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT

FACE		HEIGHT (APPROX.) 5' 10"		WEIGHT (APPROX.) 175		COMPLEXION	
	X	EYES		HAIR		Fallow	
						Light	X
		Blue		Blonde		Ruddy	
		Gray	X	Red		Dark	
		Hazel		Brown	X	Freckled	
		Brown		Black		Light brown	
		Black		Gray		Dark brown	
				Red		Black	

any obvious physical characteristics that will aid in identification.

Pfc Marvin J. May

..... has just come to Bushnell General Hospital, Brigham City, Utah, as a patient. Do not worry as he is not in a serious condition and if he should become so, the hospital will let you know at once.

Please write him in care of this hospital.

For the Commanding Officer:

Information Officer

2000 PSF

BSGN 70-1-24-15.

Came Back June 8-

1945

NAME OF SHIP USS Argentina

ARRIVED AT

Boston

Discharged on April 18, 1946

1946

AT Bushnell General Hospital

NOTES ON HIS APPEARANCE when he came from over sea
"preaty thin"

WHO WELCOMED HIM HOME from over sea's - His
Mother and wife -





Before entering
Service
June 20/1944

His First Picture
in Uniform



CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

1201

(05)

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

CTA27 42 GOVT=WUX WASHINGTON DC 2 1048A

MRS DORIS M MAY=

GENERAL DELIVERY REXBURG IDA=

Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

THE SECRETARY OF WAR DESIRES ME TO EXPRESS HIS DEEP REGRET
THAT YOUR HUSBAND PFC MAY J M WAS SLIGHTLY WOUNDED IN GERMANY
16 APR 45 CONTINUE TO ADDRESS MAIL TO HIM AS FORMERLY OR
UNTIL NEW ADDRESS IS RECEIVED FROM HIM=
J A ULIO THE ADJUTANT GENERAL.

J M 16 45.

THE COMF

WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

1201

153p

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

CTA72 INTL=CD SANSORIGINE VIA WUCABLES 59 79 4.

EFM MRS DORIS MAY 236 NORTH 2 EAST

REXBURG IDA=

=LOVING BIRTHDAY GREETINGS. ILLNESS IS NOT SERIOUS. LOVE AND
KISSES=

MARVIN MAY.

Kes's May 17, 1945.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LC=Deferred Cable

NLT=Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

CTA5 NL PD STATION HOSP CAMP MYLES STANDISH MASS JUNE 11

MRS DORIS MAY=

236 NORTH 2 RB=

LEAVING TOMORROW 12TH FOR WALLA WALLA WASHINGTON WILL CALL
YOU WHEN I GET THERE LOVE=

MARVIN.

12.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE


State of Idaho, }
County of Madison, }

Filed for Record at the Request of
J. M. May

at 8 Minutes past 4
O'clock P. M. this 1
day of Oct, 1946

and Recorded in Book 119
of 300 Page
Records of Madison County,
State of Idaho.

File
Recd



answered the call of your
and served in its Armed
about the total defeat of
and the heartfelt thanks of
n. As one of the Nation's
finest, you undertook the most severe
task one can be called upon to perform.
Because you demonstrated the forti-
tude, resourcefulness and calm judgment
necessary to carry out that task, we now
look to you for leadership and example
in further exalting our country in peace.

Harry Truman

THE WHITE HOUSE

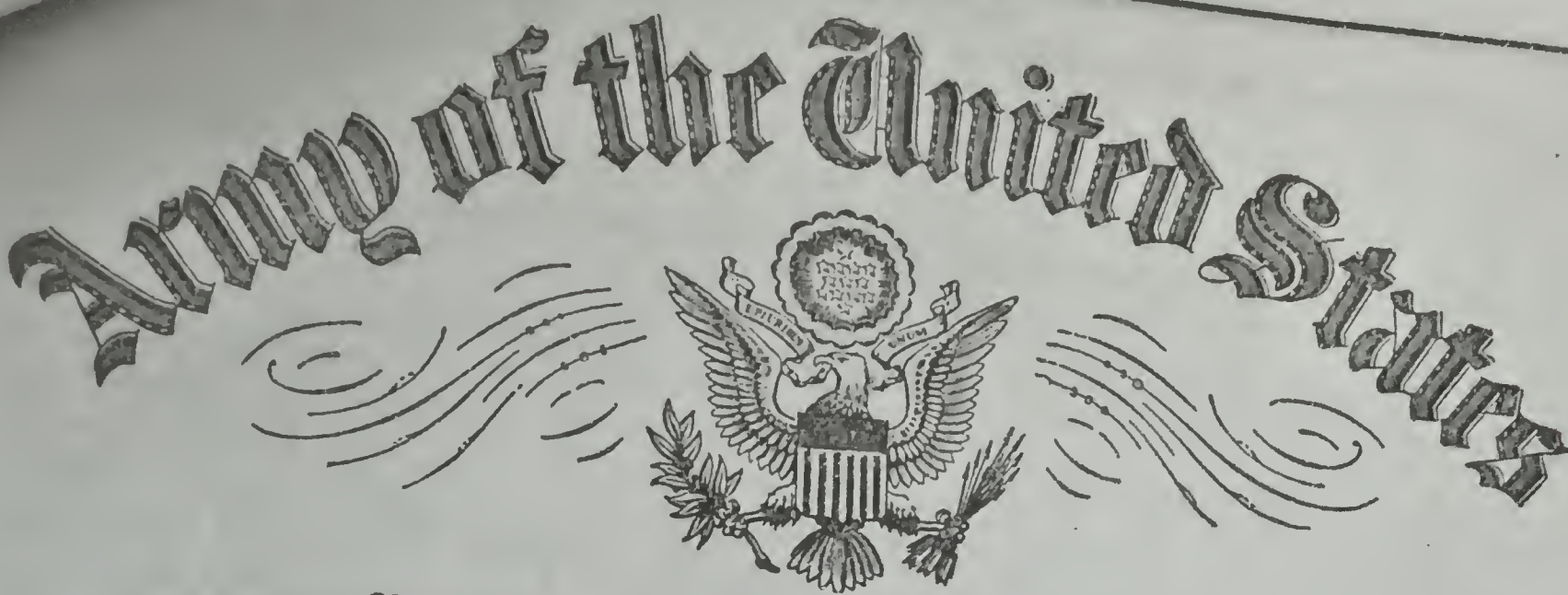


J. M. MAY

To you who answered the call of your country and served in its Armed Forces to bring about the total defeat of the enemy, I extend the heartfelt thanks of a grateful Nation. As one of the Nation's finest, you undertook the most severe task one can be called upon to perform. Because you demonstrated the fortitude, resourcefulness and calm judgment necessary to carry out that task, we now look to you for leadership and example in further exalting our country in peace.

Harry Truman

THE WHITE HOUSE



SEPARATION QUALIFICATION RECORD

SAVE THIS FORM. IT WILL NOT BE REPLACED IF LOST

This record of job assignments and special training received in the Army is furnished to the soldier when he leaves the service. In its preparation, information is taken from available Army records and supplemented by personal interview. The information about civilian education and work experience is based on the individual's own statements. The veteran may present this document to former employers, prospective employers, representatives of schools or colleges, or use it in any other way that may prove beneficial to him.

1. LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE INITIAL

MAY MARVIN J

2. ARMY SERIAL NO.

37 365 017

3. GRADE

PFC

4. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.

555-22-0738

5. PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS (Street, City, County, State)

236 N. 2nd East
Rexburg, Idaho

6. DATE OF ENTRY INTO
ACTIVE SERVICE

20 Jun 44

7. DATE OF SEPARATION

APR 18 1946

8. DATE OF BIRTH

9 Aug 24

9. PLACE OF SEPARATION

BUSHNELL GENERAL HOSPITAL
BRIGHAM CITY, UTAH

MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

10. MONTHS

4
6

11. GRADE

Pvt
Pfc

12. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY

Inf Basic Tng (521)
Machine Gunner Heavy (605)

SUMMARY OF MILITARY OCCUPATIONS

13. TITLE—DESCRIPTION—RELATED CIVILIAN OCCUPATION

MACHINE GUNNER, HEAVY. Set up, aimed and fired a 30 caliber water cooled machine gun in combat against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations.

16-45815-1

This form supersedes WD AGO Form 100, 15 July 1944, which will not be used.

CIVILIAN EDUCATION			
15. HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED	16. DEGREES OR DIPLOMAS	17. YEAR LEFT SCHOOL	OTHER TRAINING OR SCHOOLING
4 yrs HS	HS Diploma	1943	
18. NAME AND ADDRESS OF LAST SCHOOL ATTENDED			20. COURSE—NAME AND ADDRESS OF SCHOOL—DATE
Madison High School Rexburg, Idaho			21. DURATION
19. MAJOR COURSES OF STUDY			
Academic			
CIVILIAN OCCUPATIONS			
22. TITLE—NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER—INCLUSIVE DATES—DESCRIPTION			
<u>LABORER, CREAMERY</u> : Cooper Creamery, Rexburg, Idaho 1943-44 Did general labor in a creamery. Emptied milk, stacked butter, washed separators, etc.			
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION			
23. REMARKS			
24. SIGNATURE OF PERSON BEING SEPARATED		25. SIGNATURE OF SEPARATION CLASSIFICATION OFFICER	26. NAME OF OFFICER (Typed or Stamped)
Marvin J. May		Charles D. Warren	CHARLES D. WARREN Capt. AGO

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 10-45815-1

D. Pension
Area Office

VETERANS

140 Montgo

In accor
and the
as amended, and the
notified

Pension
Area Office)

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION AREA OFFICE No. 9
140 Montgomery Street, San Francisco 4, California.

C- 6,063,298

P- 12:hd

May 1, 1946

In accordance with the provisions of Public No. 2, 73d Congress, as amended, and the regulations and instructions issued pursuant thereto, you are hereby notified that as a Pfc. who was discharged from the military service of the United States on the 18th day of April, 1946, you are awarded pension in the amount of \$ 115.00 per month from 19th April, 1946, on account of disability resulting from the following conditions held to have been incurred or aggravated during your war service: Condition resulting from shrapnel wound, left arm.

The monthly payments pursuant to this award will continue during the period in which you are 100 % disabled subject to the general conditions mentioned on the reverse side of this communication to which your attention is directed. Upon the happening of any of the contingencies mentioned, the Veterans Administration should be notified promptly.

It has been determined that service connection is not shown for the following conditions: None.

If you are dissatisfied with the findings of the Veterans Administration or the amount of this award, it is your privilege to enter an appeal to the Board of Veterans Appeals, Washington 25, D. C. An appeal must be taken within one year from the date of this letter, and should be forwarded to the office shown below.

If you should change your present address, the Veterans Administration must be immediately notified.

All future communications with reference to this case should be addressed to the Veterans Administration Regional Office at Boise, Idaho, to which your file is being transferred, and must bear the file number C- 6,063,298 as well as your full name and complete rank and organization. Attention is invited to attached inserts concerning entitlement to treatment and your right to apply for vocational rehabilitation.

Very truly yours,

Chase Breslin
CHAS. C. BRESLIN
Manager. (Acting)

(O V E R)

CC: V.F.W.

GPO 10-45187-1

Marvin J. May
263 No. 2nd East
Rexburg, Idaho.

R E S T R I C T E D

REFER TO PAR _____

LEGENDS: TOT-Transportation O will furnish the necessary transportation.
 RUAT-Reporting upon arrival thereat.
 FOWP-Fin O will pay prescribed monetary alws in lieu of rat.

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NO.....95)

- EXTRACT -

ARMY SERVICE FORCES
 Ninth Service Command
 BUSHNELL GENERAL HOSPITAL
 Brigham City, Utah
 17 April 1946

*
 29. Par 2, SO 92; this hq, cs, is amended to show correct no of meals for Cpl Virgil W. Hastings, 39706313, as 12 meals and Pt S/Sgt William G. Melton, 20934497, as 2 meals.

30. 1ST LT ROBERT D. PAULSON, 02062695, AC, is reld fr atchd unasgd Det of Pts, this GH, and is atchd unasgd and WP 23 Apr 46 to Det of Pts, Mayo GH, Galesbury, Ill for further obsn and treat. EDCMR 23 Apr 46. Ten (10) days delay (sk lv) enroute auth. TPA PCS TDN 601-31 P 431-02-03 A 0425-26. Auth: Par 4, AR 40-600, and TT, SGO, SPMDD-DR 6092, 15 Apr 46.

31. 1ST LT JOHN R. MONLEY, 0527842, Inf, is reld fr atchd unasgd Det of Pts, this GH, and is atchd unasgd and WP 22 Apr 46 to Det of Pts, Brooke GH, Ft San Houston, Tex for further obsn and treat. EDCMR: 22 Apr 46. TPA PCS TDN 601-31 P 431-02-03 A 0425-26. Auth: Par 4, AR 40-600, and TT, SGO, SPMDD-DR 6092, 15 Apr 46.

32. Fol EM, are reld fr asgmt and dy 1977 SCU, and WP Sep C, Ft Douglas, Utah to arrive 20 Apr 46 for disch. UP AR 615-362.

ADDRESS ON AD

Sgt Darrel L. Ross, 39929913

Sgt Leo Lasko, 42206489

Tec 5 Clyde William, 34964094

Pvt Charles W. Tolsen, 39482595

Green River, Utah

1775 Clay Ave., Bronx, NY

Pfc J.W. Herson, 38712885

Pfc Fred F. Wells, 39934977

EDCMR 20 Apr 46. Upon compl of tvl three (3) cents per mile in lieu of transportation fr Brigham City, Utah to Ft Douglas, Utah is auth UP AR 35-4810. TPA PCS TDN 601-31 P 431-02 A 0425-26. Auth: Messageform, SPRPM-CC-4-640 and 772.

33. CAPT JOHN W. CROW, 0449587, QMC, is reld fr asgmt and dy 1977 SCU, this GH (last perm dy stat), and WP his home Princeton, Ky for relf fr AD w/TDY 20 Apr 46 enroute at Sep C, Ft Douglas, Utah as required for processing and separation any, showing date of release fr Sep C and date off reverts to inactive status. Hoff fr AD is not by reason of phys disability. Off is entitled to lv and Certificate of Sv, WD ACO Form 53-98. EDCMR 20 Apr 46. TPA PCS TDN 601-32 P 431-02-03-07 A 0425-26. Auth: Messageform, HNSC, SPRPM-CC-4-896.

34. So much of par 2, SO 93, as pertains to trf of Sgt Oliver G. Schultz, 37610489, to Knoxville, Iowa is amended to show correct WP date as "17 Apr 46" and due back date fr Tec 4 Keller as "28 Apr 46".

35. Fol FM, are reld fr atchd unasgd Det of Pts, this GH, and WP 22 Apr 46 to Det of Pts, hosp ind RUAT for further
CUSHING GH, FLEMING, ILL
 Pvt Loren Braun, 37789943
REILLY GH, ILL
 Pfc Jesse Van Winkle, 37215529
O'REILLY, GH, ILL
 Pfc Robert Walker.

EDCMR 22 Apr 46. TO will furn nec meal tickets. TOT PCS TDN 601-31
A 0425-26. Auth: Par 5, AR 40-600, TT, SGO, SPMD-DR-6092.

36. S/Sgt Lee J. Cleveland, 37071598, is reld fr atchd unasgd Det of Pts,
this GH, and is atchd unasgd and WP 22 Apr 46 to Fitzsimmons GH, Denver, Colo
RUAT for further obsn and treat. EDCMR 22 Apr 46. TO will furn nec meal
tickets. TOT PCS TDN 601-1 P 431-02 A 0425-26. Auth: Par 4, AR 40-600, and
TT, SGO, SPMD-DR 6092.

37. CAPT ARTHUR C. UTRECHT, 0437779, MC, is asgd Chief of the Neurop
ric Service, this hosp, eff 20 Apr 46, vice MAJ PAUL KRAMER, 0494167, MC, 1
46.

-1-

T/5 Ben B. Brigham, 37335779, AAF
S/Sgt Arthur A. Yost, 16050133, AAF
Pfc Francis W. Baarley, 39217600
Pfc Edward H. Biggs, 37189402
T/Sgt Everett H. Borley, 20943614
Cpl Edward P. Cancio, 39857545
T/Sgt Jose S. Correa, 39689206
Pfc William M. Erickson, 39282314
Pfc Wayne C. Goodnight, 39054981
Pfc Homer L. Griffin, 38481495
Sgt John R. Hampton, Jr., 19050705
S/Sgt Gerald E. Hill, 37024150
Pfc Edwin C. Johnson, 39208985
Pfc Robert Maloney, 39287031
Pfc J. M. May, 37365017
Pvt Earl H. Naylor, Jr., 37701557
Pfc Natividad G. Ramos, 39696823
Sgt William C. Rivers, Jr., 20845097
Pfc Frank A. Roseli, 39577972
Pvt Lawrence W. Sandora, 6956028
Pfc Charles F. Stone, 36885424
Pvt Clifton Traylor, 38516741
Pfc Judd W. Voigt, 36995591
T/5 Thomas L. Wakefield, 39916921
Pfc Nathan R. Wells, 39479411
Pfc Virgil F. Williams, 39147229
Pvt Claude A. Wright, 39856147
Pfc James L. Wright, 37639679

Cpl Robert B. Wolf, 39563318, AAF
Pfc John R. Acosta, 39582643
Pfc George L. Berry, 39574492
T/4 Edward H. Biller, 37741187
Pfc Dale B. Bratton, 39479305
T/Sgt Harry A. Cool, Jr., 19119916
Pfc Manuel A. Davilla, 38677402
Cpl Frank R. Estancona, 39920999
S/Sgt Marvin W. Graves, 18023209
Pfc Leopoldo Gurule, 38168746
Sgt Joe J. Heinrick, 37312104
Pfc Russell B. Jackson, 39334395
Pfc Delbert E. Lander, 39334325
Pfc Merle M. Martin, 39376705
Pvt Leroy R. McClain, 34749834
Pfc Billy C. Purdue, 39590526
T/5 Robert Rasmussen, 39910106
Pfc Lloyd C. Robinette, 39914619
Pvt Noe T. Sanchez, 18012978
T/Sgt Dillard B. Simmons, 34195667
T/4 John J. Sullivan, 37603505
Pfc Louie C. Villa, 39730424
Sgt Leo W. Vest, 39596951
Cpl Martin E. Walsh, 32607520
T/5 Steven E. Williams, 39210183
Pfc Earl P. Wilson, 37764600
Pfc George Zouras, 39553838

*

*

*

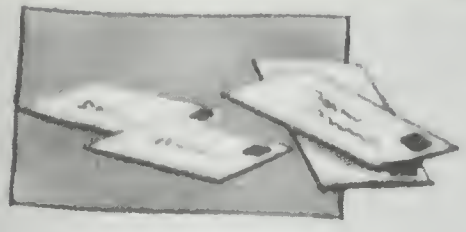
BY ORDER OF COLONEL HARDAMAY:

OFFICIAL:

Rex E. Keeling

REX E. KEELING,
1st Lt, MAC,
Adjutant.

REX E. KEELING,
1st Lt, MAC,
Adjutant.



Correspondence Record



RECEIVED MAIL FROM HIM

WROTE TO HIM

HANDBOOK ★ OF ★ INFORMATION



ARMY GROUND FORCES
REPLACEMENT DEPOT NO. 1

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND

December 20, 1944
December 21, 1944
December 22, 1944
December 24, 1944
December 25, 1944
December 26, 1944
December 27, 1944
December 29, 1944
December 2, 1944
December 4, 1944
December 5, 1944
December 6, 1944
December 7, 1944
December 10, 1944
December 12, 1944
December 14, 1944
December 16, 1944
December 18, 1944

January 16, 1945
January 26, 1945
February 1, 1945
February 5, 1945
February 12, 1945
January 27, 1945
February 13, 1945

December 19, 1944
December 21, 1944
December 23, 1944

Write Every
Fetc

ARMY SERVICE FORCES
NINTH SERVICE COMMAND,
RUSHWELL CENTRAL HOSPITAL
Brigham City, Utah.

10 April 1946

This is to certify that the Service Record of

May 37365 017 J M.
(Name) (ASN) (Organization)

indicated that he is entitled to purchase and wear the following Ribbons and Decorations:

- ✓ 1. ~~Good Conduct Medal (ribbon)~~ *Forso by Michigan Prof*
Cts. 21 Feb. 1945
- ✓ 2. ~~American Defense Ribbon~~
- ✓ 3. ~~Asiatic Pacific Ribbon~~
- ✓ 4. European African Middle Eastern Ribbon
- ✓ 5. American Theater Ribbon
6. ~~Philippine Defense Ribbon~~
7. ~~Philippine Liberation Ribbon~~
- ✓ 8. Purple Heart ribbon - *GO 61 2262 #H. 27 April 45*
9. ~~Bronze Star Medal (Ribbon)~~
10. Overseas bars 1
(No.)
11. Bronze Campaign Stars 3
(No.)
12. *C I B G O #10 Hg 22d Inf. 22 Jan 45*
13. *WW #2 Victory*

JL
JOSEPH L. ADESKI
2nd LT. MAC
ASST. PERS. OFFICER

Excerpts From His Letters

2nd Div. Advance in Day Equals December Total

WITH SECOND INF. DIV.—This outfit has returned to "Heartbreak Crossroads", taking in one day what it took four days to capture when the German offensive began and compelled the division to withdraw for a defense of its rear and flank. In two days the division has moved further into the Siegfried Line than it did in December.

The Ninth and 23rd Regts. travelled about 4000 yards to conquer many of the same pillboxes in the Wehlerscheid region of the Monschau Forest which the division had taken between December 13 to 16 until it was forced to make its stand in what has been described as "the hot corner" of the bulge.

More than 200 prisoners were taken in the recent action by the two regiments.



→ "This will give you some idea what I am doing."



"One less Jerry we will have to worry about."

Excerpts From His Letters



It was disclosed yesterday that the Ninth Armd. and Second Inf. Divs. are participating in what was described as "the First Army's Berlin drive."

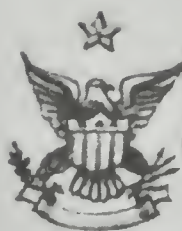
Ninth Armd. spearheads rolled 21 miles southeast of Limburg to reach a point five miles southeast of Wiesbaden, just north of Mainz.

Hundreds of First Army tanks—one of the greatest armored forces ever assembled—rolled through Germany, by-passing unimportant towns. Motorized infantry followed close behind for mopping up operations. Behind them came the old-fashioned doughfeet, who took care of the final cleanup.

Sent from Overseas

Wounded

A telegram was received from the war department by Mrs. Doris May, that her husband, Marvin May, was slightly wounded in Germany. He went overseas in December, 1944. He has been fighting with the First army.



Newspaper Clippings and Mementos



Mrs. Doris May received a letter this week from her husband that he had landed safely in Belgium. He reported the weather as plenty cold. Pvt. J. Marvin May took his training at Fort McClellan, Alabama.

Rexburg Journal

Pfc Marvin May Awarded Purple Heart

Mrs. Doris May received word this week that her husband, Pfc. J. Marvin May, had been awarded the Purple Heart. He has been with the First Army in Germany. The award was made at an army hospital in France. According to the message, Pfc. May was wounded in Germany on April 16, 1945.

Rexburg Standard

Mrs. Doris May received word this week that her husband, Pfc. J. Marvin May, had been awarded the Purple Heart. He has been with the First Army in Germany. The award was made at an army hospital in France. According to the message, Pfc. May was wounded in Germany on April 16, 1945.

Post-Register

Wounded

A telegram was received from the war department by Mrs. Doris May, that her husband, Marvin May, was slightly wounded in Germany. He went overseas in December, 1944. He has been fighting with the First army.

SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Marvin May Wounded April 16 in Germany

Pfc Marvin May, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifton May, has been reported wounded on April 16, while fighting with the 1st Army in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. May have received a letter from Marvin since, stating that his arm was injured by shrapnel.

Pfc May entered the service last June, trained at Camp McClellan, Alabama, and went overseas in December.

Grovont Paper

Mrs. Doris May left here Monday to join her husband in Walla Walla, Wash., at the McCaw hospital where he is undergoing an operation for wounds received in Germany. Pfc. May's mother, Mrs. Clifton May of Jackson, Wyo accompanied Mrs. Doris May to Walla Walla. 19 June.

Rexburg Ida

Mrs. Marvin May received word from her husband who has been in a hospital near Chelford, England, that he had visited with his aunt Mrs. Mabel Crook. Mr. Crook is a sister of Mrs. W. Muir and a daughter of Mrs. A. ma C. Christensen. It has been 49 years since they saw their son and daughter.

Rexburg Paper

UNITED STATES ARMY

HOSP PLANT 4176

APO 121, c/o POSTMASTER
New York, N. Y.

Mrs May

DEAR

21 MAY 1945

I am pleased to inform you that on (Date) your

husband Pfc Marvin J. May 37365017

(Relationship)

(Grade, name, Army serial number)

was * making normal improvement

wound of the left arm

Diagnosis †

Very truly yours,

Charles C. Gill

CHARLES C. GILL

Col. MC, Commanding

W. D., A. G. O. Form 234
9 November 1944

UKB 3-45/1.000M/L-14428 (16:44/4 56852) 31911

NEWS OF TETON COUNTY SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Marvin May, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifton May, who received shrapnel wounds in his arm while in action in Germany, and was later confined to a hospital in England, has arrived in the United States and is now in a hospital in Walla Walla, Washington, where he is to submit to surgery. His mother of Grovont, and his wife, of Rexburg, Ida., left last week for a visit with him at the hospital.

Jackson Paper

Pfc Marvin May Awarded Purple Heart

Mrs. Doris May received word this week that her husband, Pfc. J. Marvin May, had been awarded the Purple Heart. He has been with the First Army in Germany. The award was made at an army hospital in France.

According to the message, Pfc. May was wounded in Germany on April 16, 1945.

Rexburg Paper

Pfc Marvin May Awarded Purple Heart

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According to the message, Pfc. May was wounded in Germany on April 16, 1945.

Rexburg Standard.

Wounded

Post-Register
Bring this back if you can.
A telegram was received from the war department by Mrs. Doris May, that her husband, Marvin May, was slightly wounded in Germany. He went overseas in December, 1944. He has been fighting with the First army.

SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Marvin May Wounded April 16 in Germany

Pfc Marvin May, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifton May, has been reported wounded on April 16, while fighting with the 1st Army in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. May have received a letter from Marvin since, stating that his arm was injured by shrapnel.

Pfc May entered the service last June, trained at Camp McClellan, Alabama, and went overseas in December.

UNITED STATES ARMY
HOSP PLANT 4176
APO 121, c/o POSTMASTER
New York, N. Y.

DEAR Mrs May:

I am pleased to inform you that on 21 MAY 1945 your

husband Pfc Mervin J. May 37365017
(Relationship) (Grade, name, Army serial number)

was making normal improvement

wound of the left arm
Diagnosis †

Very truly yours,

Charles C. Gill

CHARLES C. GILL
Col, MC, Commanding

* Enter present status as—
Making normal improvement.
Convalescing.

† Must be written in nontechnical language.

W. D., A. G. O. Form 234
9 November 1944

UKB 3-45(1,000M) L-14428 (16/44/4 58859) 31911

UNITED STATES ARMY
HOSP PLANT #4176
APO 121, c/o POSTMASTER
New York, N. Y.

DEAR Mrs May,

I am pleased to inform you that on 28 May 1945 your
Husband Pfc Marvin J May, 37305017
(Relationship) (Grade, name, Army serial number)
was * Evacuated to the USA - Final Report.

Diagnosis †

* Enter present status as—
Making normal improvement.
Convalescing.

† Must be written in nontechnical language.

Very truly yours,
Charles C. Gill.
CHARLES C. GILL
Col, MC, Commanding

W. D., A. G. O. Form 234
9 November 1944

UKB. 2-45/887M/L-13899 (16/44/4 52079) 31815

Gets Discharge

Pfc. Marvin May was discharged from the army on April 18 and returned to his home in Rexburg recently. Pfc. May, husband of Doris Muir May, entered the service in June of 1943. He served in the European theatre and was wounded in action at Leipzig. He was returned to the United States where he has been hospitalized for a year prior to his discharge.

Appendix 5 - Letters between Doris and Marvin¹

Dear Doris
 Am in Jackson now,
 going to Driggs after
 saw mill and I
 thought I would
 kindly inform you
 that I've only received
 one letter from you
 in three weeks. I
 feel you can't find
 time to write.
 Love
 Marvin May

Rexburg, Idaho
 May 30, 1942

Dearest Marvin
 Honey I don't know
 what to say only
 that I sure like my
 locket and thanks
 a million. Its so
 beautiful and I had
 once thought of a
 locket, It sure was
 a grand surprise -
 say why don't you
 ever write my mom
 here it is a week
 and I havent got a
 letter from you. Well
 It was planned for
 me to be in Jackson

This letter dated 31 May 1942 gives some
 insight as to why Marvin may have not
 been getting letters over that summer.

Dated 12 Oct 1942 this letter written between the
 junior and senior years of high school show some
 frustration in not having received letters

1 Doris has kept an extensive collection of letters written back and forth between she and Marvin
 prior to their marriage, during his basic training and then the war. Only a sample of them are shown here.
 The entire collection can be found in the DVD attached to this book

July 1, 1944
 Ft. McClellan, Ala

My Dearest Wife,
 Just a line to let you know where I'm stationed. We just got here today (Sat) and haven't been assigned our definite barracks and so forth, so don't write intill you get your next letter, which will be within the next day or two. As much as I've seen of this state of Alabama I wouldn't give a mole hill of Idaho or N.Y. for this whole darn state, we've been sweating every since we got here and they say this is mild to what it gets.

I'll I haven't time to write any more now but will write a lot next time and give you the right address. all my love. J. M. M.

This letter dated 1 July 1944 was written from Ft. McClellan when he first arrived for training. We don't have corresponding letters from Doris as Marvin evidently did not save them.

France
 April 4, 1945

My Darling Wife
 Just a line to let you know I'm getting along all right. Honey I'm afraid I'm going to get fat again, I get three big meals a day and snacks in between times such as Juices of all kinds, egg nog, Oranges etc. Darling the news sure sounds good lately doesn't it, not only the war news but it sounds like now that we have a chance of getting home for a few days before moving off to the Pacific. I don't know how

The first letter Doris received from Marvin as he lay in a hospital bed in France after he was wounded, dated 4 April 1945

England
 May 14, 1945

Hello Dearest,
 Well Darling I'm at another Hospital here in England, am not sure but think I'll be here quite a while so write me at this address. Hope my mail catches up to me now.

Now that censor restriction has lifted a little I can give you an idea of where I've been & so forth.

When I left I think I went to camp "Myle Standish" port of embarkation, from there to Boston where I left good old U.S. soil and walked up the gang plank into what used to be the ^{manhattan} ~~manhattan~~ Luxury Liner ~~U.S.S. Manhattan~~ but is now converted into ^{the} a troop ship "Shakelfield" we pushed off Dec 12, 1944 and arrived at Liver pool England the 20th.

This three page letter, dated 14 May 1945 was written by Marvin when he arrived in England from the hospital in France. The censorship had been lifted and he was able to describe his war experience. This is the only account that we have of his experiences written in his own hand. He was in England only a short time before he was put on a ship and sent back to the United States where he travelled by train from the East Coast to the McCaw General Hospital in Walla Walla, Washington where he was operated on. He then was transferred to Madigan General Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

Got on a train there and went around through London and down to Southampton where we boarded another large troop ship and crossed the English Channel. we landed at Le Havre, France and got on box cars, went around by Paris and up near Belgium where I was assigned to my outfit. then I got on a truck and joined my outfit which was up near Elsenborn Belgium, just the other side of Liege. Here is where the fighting began, the enemy was on our two flanks as well as our front. From there we went into Germany, broke through the Siegfried line, crossed the Rhine River at the right of Cologne, went through Limburg, ~~Worms~~ ^{Worms} and 40 million other towns that I can't recall the name of. was hit on the morning of April 16 just

a few miles this side of "Leipzig": as you have probably heard, the 2nd & 69th took Leipzig. I don't know where my outfit went from there.

I rode back a ways by ambulance and then was put on a C-47 and flew to a Hospital near Reims, France where I stayed for over twenty days. From there I got on a C-46 which is larger than the C-47 and flew to England. was first at a Hospital near "Kidderminster" and now to this one near "Malvern", just a few miles from Birmingham.

Darling did you get the telegram all right and was it on time, sure wish I was there to personally wish you a Happy birthday.

Tell Honey I pray that you're all right & in good health. Tell the folks hello for me. all my Love - Marvin

Pfc. J. Marvin May 37365017
Set Dept. Ward 2
Madigan Gen. Hosp.
Birmingham, Utah



Mrs. Louis May
236 No. 2nd East
Rexburg
Idaho



Envelopes of letters written while Marvin was in the hospital. A sample letter dated 24 November 1945 written from Madigan General Hospital indicates an update mood.



Nov 24 - 1945
Friday

Hello Mamma
Well how is every thing, including Junior?
As for me I'm kinda lonesome. Baby
I miss you very much even if you are
awful grouchy and won't give me any
loving and stuff. (kisses)

I saw the doctor this morning and
he said I'd be home on furlough by
Christmas. by the way he sounded I
wouldn't get discharged until about spring.

I just got back from the show-down
to the Old Cross "The pride of the Marines with
John Barfield" it was sure good. If it
ever comes to Rexburg and you able
go and see it. you'll get a good idea of
~~what~~ what a ~~heavy~~ heavy thirty caliber
Machine gun looks like.

I've done pretty good today. this makes



Disc Contents:
Letters between Marvin and Doris. 1942-1946
Pictures used in the book
Video clips from 2011
Audio clips from 2012
PDF of the Book

